

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Ed Davis Explains AB-1 Vote

**Concerned Republicans Banquet Draws 250**

**Agnos Makes Surprise Endorsement of Former LAPD Chief**

by George Mendenhall

One of the strangest turns of events in the history of Gay liberation happened on May 10 when a Gay organization honored the former police chief of Los Angeles, State Senator Ed Davis. Davis was known across the nation during his eight years (1969-1978) as one of the most oppressive, anti-homosexual police chiefs in the nation. The fact that Davis would appear before the group and receive the honor and become the evening's speaker was even more amazing.

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AB-1 supporter State Senator Ed Davis (l.) is saluted by CRIR executives, president Tom Peretti (center) and former president Bob Bacci (r.). (Photo: Rink)

## Britt Paves Way for Stopping Sex

**Bathhouse Surveillance and "No Sex" Enforcement Authority Created for Health Department Inspectors**

**Gay Supervisor Wants Fast Action on Plan**

by Paul Lorch

The Gay community's representative on the Board of Supervisors, Harry Britt, issued a press release Monday announcing that he was leading a move to give the city's Health Department control over bathhouses and sex clubs.

The move would enable Director of Public Health Dr. Mervyn Silverman to implement a series of changes, send in inspectors, and penalize management or close the establishments if his directives were violated.

Britt told the other supervisors that he wanted the authority for licensing, regulation, and inspection of bathhouses to be shifted from the Chief of Police to the Director of Public Health. The Gay supervisor

solicited the initial support of seven other supervisors to have the City Attorney, George Agnost, prepare this legislation. Britt got the backing of supervisors Wendy Nelder, Quentin

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## Trio in States Street Shootout Arraigned in Superior Court

**Whistles Save Gay Couple As Police Face Attackers' Bullets**

by Allen White

Directly because of alert concerned Gays who remembered to blow their whistles an important criminal case is wending its way through the court system. Three San Francisco youths were held to answer on felony charges of attempted robbery with a handgun and assault with a deadly weapon on a police officer following a three-day preliminary hearing before Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen.

The three, Ralph Alvarez, Thomas Reidy, and Kevin Kyne, are charged with accosting Richard MacIntyre and Eric Nielsen at gunpoint during the early morning hours of March 25. The Gay couple were walking home. Nielsen began blowing his whistle, attracting several dozen people, many who also began blowing their whistles.

Within seconds police responded and a dramatic chase followed through the narrow streets above Castro and Market with guns blazing. The three were arrested within minutes at Lower Terrace and Roosevelt. They had thrown away their weapon, but police retracing the chase route later recovered it.

The District Attorney's office is currently searching for the owner of a black BMW which was reported to have received a bullet hole during the shooting. It is believed the bullet hit the windshield, and because of the



Assaulted by gun-shooting thugs, Eric Nielsen. (Photo: Rink)

direction of the way the car was parked, it strengthens the conclusion that the defendants were shooting at the police officers.

Shooting guns at cops is serious stuff and the penalty if convicted is from four to eight years in prison. Each defendant has hired a lawyer and they have private investigators working to get their clients off. The District Attorney's office is also working intently on the case. D.A. Arlo Smith has assigned Ken Cady, considered one of his best prosecuting attorneys to handle the

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# "Gay" Gets Lost in Jesse Jackson's First SF Rally

by Allen White

Democratic presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson brought his campaign to San Francisco last Sunday and sent a, possibly unintended, message that Gay is grey in the rainbow coalition.

Jackson appeared at an open rally in Portsmouth Square, a fundraiser in Chinatown's Far East Cafe, and gave an interview to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

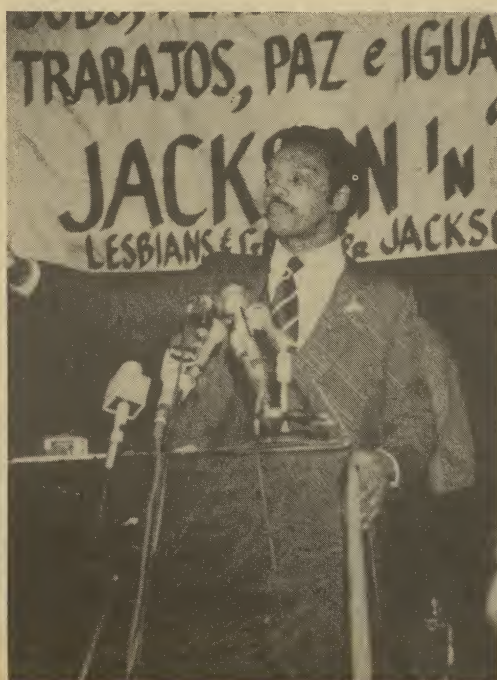
It was learned that while the highly touted rainbow coalition includes Gays, the color is not a bright pink or lavender. Jackson spoke of his rainbow in '84 as being red, yellow, brown, black and white in content. Only once in a twenty minute speech did he even so much as mention the word "Gay."

What he says in his speeches is not the total picture of what Jesse Jackson is all about. In the San Francisco area he has the distinction of being the only Democratic presidential candidate endorsed by any Gay political club. Of the Gay Democratic clubs in the area, Stonewall is committed to Jackson. Hart and Mondale have yet to gain their first Gay political endorsement.

Clutching an assortment of Chinese delicacies at the Far East Cafe, Jackson was mellow in demeanor and certainly unimpressed by the army of Secret Service surrounding his every move. Towering to a six foot two inches, Jackson is a salesman on the move. Realizing his importance, he gives no evidence of arrogance or an undisciplined ego.

Though as cloudy as the San Francisco fog, his message does include Gay men and Lesbians. Last Sunday he gave an overview of what will probably be the primary thrust of his campaign to the Gay community. He stresses civil rights for all people and he believes there are legitimate concerns to be addressed.

He was not aware of California's Gay employment legislation, AB-1. He did say that if such legislation were presented to him, he would not veto such a bill as had Governor Dukeminjian. "When you need a doctor



Jesse Jackson doesn't wow his San Francisco Gay supporters in his first and second S.F. appearances. (Photo: Rink)

you make your choice on medical skill, not on sexual preference," he said. "When you need an attorney, you make your choice on legal skill, not on sexual preference." Though not fully articulated, Jackson genuinely appeared to maintain a stance against any type of discrimination.

Speaking historically, Jesse

Jackson told the *B.A.R.* that a hundred years ago only landowners could vote. Barriers against Blacks, Hispanics and women, all of which were excluded, have been broken down. He implies that similar discrimination against Gays is part of a current overall agenda that calls for attention. Though the implication is made, it is disturbing to listen and realize that he never once specifically isolates Gay men and Lesbians as victims of prejudice. His one mention of Gays in his speech invited Gay participation in his agenda. There was never any rallying cry of what he would do in return.

Between now and the June 6 primary, Jackson, Hart and Mondale are all going to be working hard to win in California. Jesse Jackson now has a track record that would indicate he will do well in San Francisco. Last Sunday was an indication of his strengths, his message, and his weakness.

His strength is in his ability to reach and motivate minorities, especially the poor. Blacks displayed a strong presence at the rally Sunday. In what would appear to be typical Jesse Jackson style, Blacks blended as a coalition with the Asians of Chinatown displaying a pride that never translated to arrogance.

Jesse Jackson's message is in his personal ability to relate to the poor. In the inner city he is working ripe territory. Of his rainbow coalition he said, "paint poverty with pain and hurt." He hammered away at the gut issues of dope, inadequate education, mass transit and drew a huge ovation when he charged that kids tradeoff a decent education by watching five hours of television a day.

His standard campaign

Valencia Rose

## Jackson, at Gay Function, Says Little on Gay Issues

### Foreign Affairs Dominate Speech — Immigration Bill Attacked

by Dion B. Sanders

It was billed as his first major public address in San Francisco on Gay issues, and the appearance was sponsored by Lesbians and Gays for Jesse Jackson, but the Democratic presidential candidate spoke little about them at Valencia Rose Tuesday.

To a wildly cheering, multi-ethnic capacity crowd of more than 1,500 packed into the popular Mission District Gay nightclub, Jackson devoted most of his speech to foreign-policy issues — particularly Central America and the Third World — and military spending.

Specific Gay-related topics such as AIDS, the national Gay rights bill now pending in Congress, AB-1, and the National Gay Rights March, scheduled for the eve of the opening of the Democratic National Convention in July, were not mentioned in Jackson's address.

"We've had several events representing various aspects of the Rainbow (Coalition)," Jackson began. "For the very first time, there's been a Gay and Lesbian desk (in the Jackson campaign) ..."

"There is no greater cause for pain quite like the pain of rejection and the denial of one's person," Jackson continued. "All of us must be granted equal protection under the law and equal representation within the law."

Attacking the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill now pending in Congress, Jackson warned that the bill, which would, among other things, establish a national identification card similar to the one Californians now use, "threatens not only Hispanics, it threatens everybody," including — while not saying so specifically — Gays.

"The Simpson-Mazzoli bill threatens all of us. If they (Congress) can pass a bill that says, 'You must have a passbook if you look a certain way,' everybody looks a certain way," he said. "Hispanics look a certain way. Blacks look a certain way. Asians look a certain way. Everybody (including Gays) looks a certain way!"

Calling the proposed national ID card "bringing South Africa's passbook to America," Jackson argued, "We must not bring apartheid from South Africa here, we must end apartheid there!" to the roar of the crowd, which included a large representation of Blacks and Latinos — many of them Gay.

Jackson, who arrived 40 minutes late and was late for a luncheon across town, declined to answer reporters' questions

after he finished his address.

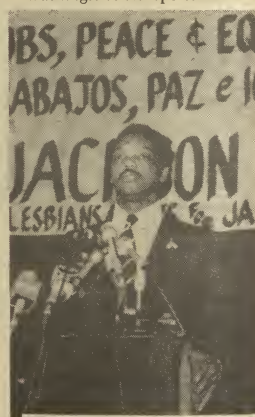
Before Jackson took the stage, A. Billy S. Jones, Coordinator of Lesbians and Gays for Jackson, told the assemblage that between Jackson, Gary Hart, and Walter Mondale, "the only candidate who we see has consistently supported us" on issues of concern to Lesbians and Gays "is Jesse Jackson."

Jones added that Jackson "is the only candidate that we see that makes the connection of homophobia along with issues of racism, anti-semitism, sexism, ageism, and all the other negative 'isms' that we need to address in terms of moving toward humanism."

In a clear reference to Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, of whom Jackson has come under increasing pressure to disavow because of controversial statements by the Muslim leader, Jones declared flatly, "We frown upon anyone who calls for us to disavow any part of the Rainbow Coalition."

"You do not build coalitions and move toward resolution (of differences within the coalition) by disavowal," Jones said.

An openly Gay supporter of Jackson in Washington, D.C., had last month withdrawn his support, in protest of Jackson's refusal to disassociate Farrakhan from the campaign following remarks by Farrakhan that allegedly threatened the life of *Washington Post* reporter Milton



Jesse Jackson at Valencia Rose. (Photo: Rink)

Coleman.

Coleman had last March revealed off-the-cuff remarks by Jackson referring to Jews as "Hymies" and to New York City as "Hymietown."

Farrakhan had also branded entertainer Michael Jackson a "sissy" and a bad role model for Black youth.

speech includes reference to his Grandmother's quilt. Together many fabrics in his quilt are sewn together to form his rainbow coalition. Only once in two Chinatown speeches did he mention the word "Gay" and it was not as part of the "rainbow coalition." Several aides and supporters of Jackson hastened to say that the candidate indeed had a strong Gay agenda. It is significant that these positions were not forthcoming from the mouth of Jesse Jackson.

Jackson's glaring weakness is the lack of support by city public

office holders and non-Black leaders. Of 16 persons listed as honorary co-hosts of his Chinatown rally, only Supervisor Willie Kennedy holds an elected office in San Francisco. For Jesse Jackson, his weakness may be his strength. Seemingly unswayed by lack of heavy name endorsements, he is putting his chips on voter registration. A major announcement came Sunday when his campaign said that Jackson's people had registered over 11,000 people just in San Francisco for the next election.

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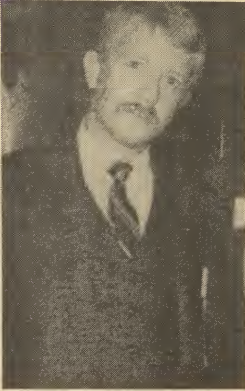
# Seven Gay Republicans Seek County GOP Committee Seats

by Wayne Friday

For the first time, a number of Gay Republicans are actively seeking seats on the San Francisco County Republican Central Committee in all three of the city's assembly districts. The local GOP central committee is made up of 25 elected members and a number of associate members, comprised mostly of candidates of the party who ran in previous elections; the central committee sets San Francisco Republican party policy on local, state, and even national issues, endorses candidates, raises money, and provides whatever troops they can muster to get those endorsed candidates elected.

This year, of those Republicans seeking elected seats on the county committee, a total of seven Gays are running for the ten elected seats in the city's sixteenth district, a district that is represented in the Assembly by Willie Brown, and all are given at least a reasonable chance of winning in the June 5 election.

The list of upfront Gays in the 16th district include Chris Bowman, a native San Franciscan, long active in the Gay



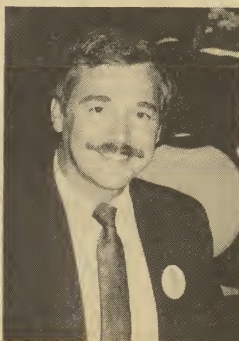
Duke Armstrong (Photo: Rink)



Bob Bacci

movement in this city and an active Republican party worker. Bowman, a vice president of the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, is also a founding member of the Coalition for Human Rights, and is employed as an aide to state Senator Milton Marks. Gary Myerscough, an incumbent member of the central committee seeking re-election, is employed at Crocker Bank, has a long history of activism in the GOP and is formerly the executive director of the San Francisco Republican party.

Chuck Morrow, running the first time for an elective office is a long time Republican who is well known in the city, having served as "Char, Empress XIII"; owns the Kokpit with his lover, in business a long time as a beautician, and is a native of Michigan. Kevin Wadsworth is a former supervisorial candidate and has been connected with Republican politics and is a founding member of Republicans United. Wadsworth is a former employee of the S.F. Chamber of Commerce and is probably the best known of the Gay candidates running in the 16th district. Andrew Betancourt runs his own real estate firm; has a long history of Republican party politics and is a former candidate for supervisor in the old 5th supervisorial district. Mark Jordan, a member of Republicans United, is an employee of Pacific Telephone Co., and has a long history of Republican party activism.



Gary Myerscough (Photo: Rink)

Robert Coates, a native San Franciscan, is a member of the board of directors of CRIR and is employed at Macy's in San Francisco.

In the 17th assembly district Michael Sher, a member of Concerned Republicans, is an attorney who edits the monthly news magazine of the SF Bar



Kevin Wadsworth (Photo: Rink)

Association. The other Gay candidate for the county committee in the 17th district is attorney Duke Armstrong, the well-known Gay activist who is past president of the Concerned Republicans, and a crusader for a number of causes in the Gay community. This is Armstrong's first run at elective office. Armstrong has a long history of GOP politics, and is in private law practice here in the city.

In San Francisco's 19th assembly district, attorney Bob Bacci, an incumbent of the com-

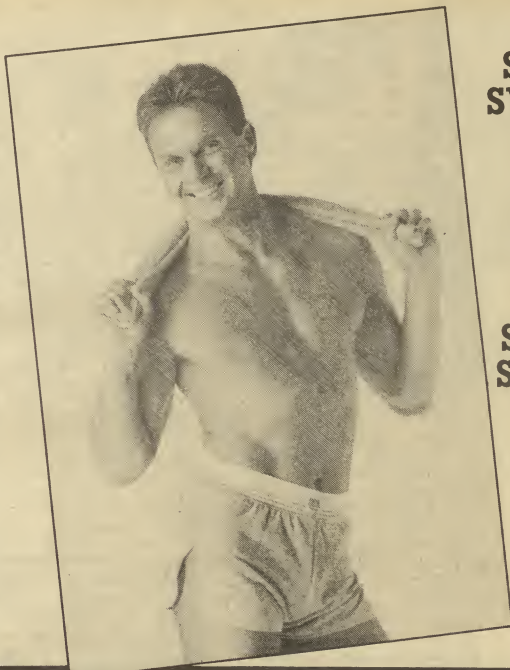


Chuck Morrow (Photo: Rink)

mittee, is seeking re-election. Bacci is also a candidate in the June 5 Republican primary for the Assembly in the 19th district and is a former candidate for a seat on the Community College Board. Bacci is a native San Franciscan and a partner in a law firm here with his father. Bacci is the immediate past president of Concerned Republicans and has long been active in Republican party politics.



Chris Bowman (Photo: Rink)



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# HEADLINES

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# Castro Thrift Goes Into Bankruptcy

by Paul Lorch

Last week Western Community Financial Group, parent company of the closed Western Community Money Center Thrift at Castro and 18th Streets, declared bankruptcy.

On Friday, April 20, the California State Department of Corporations shut down the thrift and loan operation, which was located in the old Midnight Sun building on Castro Street. Bank auditors had posted a five-page legal document on the front door announcing "Order Taking Possession of Property and Business."

Western Community Thrift opened in 1981 with reportedly \$7 million in deposits and grew quickly. Western Community gained depositors by offering interest rates that were, in some cases, almost double the rate of

million. Things got worse since then, bank regulators said.

The state froze 12,000 accounts with \$90 million in deposits for at least 90 days or until, and if, the Money Centers are sold.

**Castro loan company was a disaster. Depositors will not be penalized.**

fered by banks and savings and loan institutions. There reportedly were Gay money and Gay management in the operation. Later a founder and an organizer of the venture, Nicholas Rubican, was found murdered.

Depositors and account holders found that while their monies are insured up to \$50,000 it would be a minimum of 90 days before their funds would be available.

Western Community Money Centers, based in Walnut Creek, had eight offices and was shut down because it failed "to cure its capital deficit."

In February the industrial thrift reported assets of \$113 million and liabilities of \$115

million. On May 10, Peter Taussig, president of Western Community Financial, filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code.

In Chapter 11, a company operates with court protection from creditor lawsuits while working out a plan to pay its debts.

The Walnut Creek holding company estimated its assets as between \$400,000 and \$600,000 and its liabilities at \$10 million.

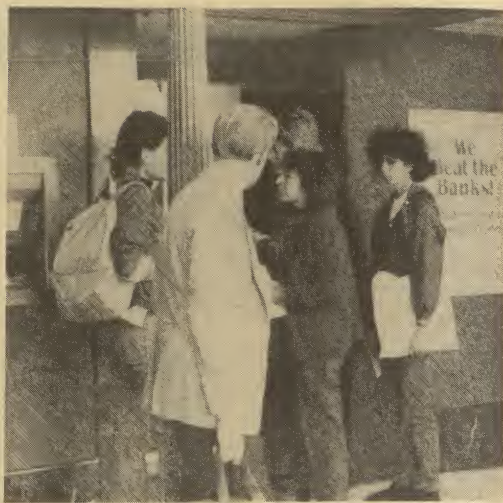
The holding company also owns a savings and loan in El Cerrito. The S&L has about 1,000 accounts and \$80 million in deposits. It is solvent and Taussig wants to protect the S&L "through the reorganization period."

When the loan company's offices closed, there was speculation that the entire chain would be bought out. One such potential purchaser, B. B. & E. Corp. of Santa Barbara, withdrew its offer Monday, May 7. The Santa Barbara buyer pulled out because there was no assurance that the transactions would have been approved by the regulators while the El Cerrito S&L was still healthy.

The Financial Group's principal creditor is the Money Centers, which is owed \$2.8 million. In addition, Bank of America has a \$1.3 million loan outstanding, and 50 individuals hold a total of \$4 million in promissory notes, ranging from \$207,500 to \$50,000.

Bank failures continue to run at a record high since the Depression. Nine banks have failed in California since the economy began to improve in January 1983, compared to only three failures in the nine years between 1974 and 1983.

Regulators said banks and other financial institutions are still feeling the effects of the 1981-82 recession, combined with rapid changes brought



The shut down Castro thrift. This week the parent company declared bankruptcy. (Photo: Rink)

about by deregulation.

"There's always a lag time between an improvement in the economy and the time it takes people to start paying off delinquent loans," said John Paulus, state deputy superintendent of banks.

According to an article in this week's S.F. Chronicle Business World, depositors should be cautious.

Gail E. Schares quoted Dean DeBuck, a public information officer in the comptroller's office: "If an interest rate sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

According to the Chronicle article Paulus said that bank branches, for the most part, are highly unprofitable now. As a result, banks are seeking regulatory approval to offer other financial services — such as insurance or stock trading — which will boost their fee income.

The key to survival now, regulators said, is good management. "Some banks just don't have the management to cope with changing times," said one. "It's a troubled time for banks. We expect to see a lot more mergers."

## Alice Meeting

# Willie Brown Invites Gays to Convention Bash

## Club Revotes on Endorsements

by Bruce Pettit

Willie Brown has invited Gay convention goers to a party — the big July 16, Pier 45 extravaganza the Speaker of the California Assembly is planning for delegates to the Democratic National Convention. He told the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club Monday night, "I want you to love those folks from Idaho, Illinois, Georgia, New Jersey, Arizona, and even some from California like they've never been loved before."

"Somebody wrote in the B.A.R.," Brown continued, referring to an event two years ago at Fort Mason, "that I had on a marvelous pair of very tight leather pants. I'll wear those pants on July 16."

Brown, Monday night, was seeking to enthrone the Gay political community to build Democratic victories in June and November. If President Reagan can be defeated in November, "I can guarantee you that anybody who is the Democratic nominee will be governor" in 1986. He said AB-1, the state Gay employment bill, cannot become law under Gov. George Deukmejian.

### LOOKING FOR A CANDIDATE

But if Toklas Democrats are typical, San Francisco Gays have no strong preference for a Democratic presidential nominee against Reagan. This they demonstrated again Monday night. Gary Hart was the choice of 93 club members but, at 46%, was short of the required 60% for an endorsement. Walter Mondale

had 68 votes (34%), Jesse Jackson 16 (8%), and 22 members wanted no endorsement.

### GAYS: A SPECIAL INTEREST

Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver had appealed for Mondale: "Mondale was one of the people who first stood up at a national forum and said it's okay to be in favor of rights for Gays and Lesbians. That's when Hart and Jackson fell in line . . . I urge that this club get in line with the other special interests" who can form a winning coalition. "You are a special interest; you're a Gay. I'm a special interest; I'm a single parent."

Linda Post, chair of the city's Democratic Party and a Mondale campaigner, called the blocking of a Hart endorsement "a victory." It had been evident in the club's previous vote that Mondale did not have enough support in Toklas, and the Mondale forces worked with Jackson's to stop Hart. Post regarded this month's Toklas result as probably reflective of the city's proportional division.

The Mondale-Jackson alliance also blocked the possibility of a third ballot, immediately following the second, if there were no presidential endorsee. A motion for a third ballot — to exclude the third-place finisher — lost 58-50. Club president Sal Rosselli said the result of the third ballot would likely have been similar anyway, because Jackson followers were planning to vote "no endorsement."

However, Toklas did agree, 49-32, to a third ballot on choices for the Democratic Party Central Committee. The club



Speaker Willie Brown being interviewed by Bay Area Reporter's reporter Bruce Pettit. (Photo: Rink)

came under intense heat last month for endorsing none of the priority candidates of other clubs — an irony after Toklas announced earlier in the year a fresh attempt at coalition-building. Officers were reaching for every means to correct that this time, and they were about two-thirds successful.

Toklas added Douglas Chan (Chinese-American Democratic Club), Marilyn Miller (Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club), Lulu Carter (Black Leadership Forum), Catherine Dodd (National Organization for Women), Mary Vail (an incumbent), and Ron Huberman (Harvey Milk Club) to its 17th Assembly District slate card. Steve Krefting (League of Environmental Voters), Pansy Ponzio Waller (Latino Democratic Club), and Jim Wachob (District 8 Democratic Club) were added in the 16th AD.

### A DISPUTED DEAL

In the most controversial en-

dorsement, Huberman barely made it on the third ballot. A dispute arose as to the nature of the deal on priority candidates between Toklas and Milk. Huberman contended that Alice had agreed to a one-for-one exchange — Milk would endorse former Toklas president Connie O'Connor, if Toklas would endorse Huberman. Instead, the Toklas officers were recommending Krefting, who Huberman said is not a high-profile Milk member.

But Toklas issues chair Greg Day, also a DCCC candidate in AD 17, maintained that it had been two-for-two — one mutual endorsement each in AD 16 and AD 17. A letter to members from the Toklas executive committee said several officers were differing from Toklas' political action committee recommendation of Huberman. It said, "The Harvey Milk Club did not follow through in endorsing our candi-

dates in the way the PAC originally anticipated."

Huberman then addressed Toklas: "The Harvey Milk Club endorsed Connie O'Connor in good faith . . . I'd like some sort of explanation. I think that it's time our clubs stopped fighting each other. Between us we have a combined membership of close to 1,000 people, and if we could ever get our act together and go after common enemies, we could do amazing things. I ask you to vote for me tonight; we'll try to end this fight; and I pledge to do that."

### 'STRAIGHT' LIBERATION

Assembly Speaker Brown was suggested by one Toklas member as the Democratic candidate for governor in 1986, but he said he likes the Speaker's job if Proposition 24 is defeated on the June 5 ballot: "If the rules are kept as they are, I think I can make enough out of this job, ego-wise, to satisfy me."

"I want to be the Speaker that walks AB-1 through the legislature and puts it on (a Democratic) governor's desk, and celebrates, not the liberation of Gays, but the liberation of straights in the state of California."

In other business, Toklas:

- Extended life membership to Jose Sarria. Sarria refused to emcee a Toklas dinner last year over a misunderstanding about the appropriateness of appearing in drag.

- Supported the boycott of Marcello's pizza restaurants as workers there attempt to unionize.

Urged the District Attorney to drop charges against demonstrators who protested a Henry Kissinger appearance.



# Republican Gays to Counter Moral Majority's Growing Clout

## New Group Begins to Emerge From Closet

by Larry Bush

More than 100 Republican activists who are Gay, angered over the prevailing influence of the New Right and Moral Majority over their party's stance on Gay issues, met in Washington, D.C., Monday to launch a national group to support Gay concerns from a "moderate to conservative" viewpoint.

"Our first and most important goal is to act as a counter-influence in conservative ranks and specifically within the Republican Party to the voices of the New Right and the Moral Majority that are anti-Gay," an organizer for the meeting said. "We have that responsibility to let the Reagan Administration and other conservatives hear our side of the story."

Organizers for the meeting, many of whom have played prominent roles in state and national Republican Party politics, said they expected to name an out of the closet spokesperson for the new group in early June. In the interim, they asked that their names not be publicized in news accounts.

"We want to be sure we are on solid ground with the financial commitments made at the meeting before we take the next step," said one organizer who said he anticipated making a public statement within the next thirty days.

Those attending the Washington meeting were largely drawn from Republican circles within the Reagan Administration, on Capitol Hill, and in Republican

Party organizations. The meeting marked the first time that Republican Gays not active in the Gay civil rights movement agreed to play a political role on behalf of Gay concerns.

A last-minute spur for the meeting, organizers said, was news reports that Dr. Edward Brandt, assistant secretary for health in the Reagan Administration, had canceled attendance at an award ceremony of the Fund for Human Dignity, a National Gay Task Force affiliate, while two Reagan Administration officials had agreed to share a podium with Rev. Jerry Falwell and anti-ERA activist Phyllis Schlafly in San Francisco on the eve of the Democratic National Convention.

"That's exactly the kind of thing that fires people up and that we want to work on to change," said one of the organizers.

Organizers said the new group will be launched as Concerned Americans for Individual Rights (CAIR) and will be a nonprofit foundation aimed at educating public officials and opinion leaders, rather than aiming at elections and campaigns.

"There is a need to hold symposiums, forums, and meetings which are open to discuss issues of concern to Gays from a dispassionate view," an organizer said. Topics under consideration include Gays in the military, the religious community's anti-Gay bias, and related national issues beginning next year.

"They will be designed to approach the issue from a high level, as opposed to marching in

the streets. Those who have done that (marched) have done a great deal — but it just doesn't attract conservatives, which is the group we're trying to reach," an organizer said.

"We also feel we can be a source of comment when there is a national issue on the media. We will speak from a conservative point of view. Other Gay organizations do a fine job, and I respect them all, but we need another source that reaches conservatives."

CAIR organizers predicted that the group would join with other Gay organizations in a united front on such issues as Gay civil rights legislation and government action to end discrimination.

"I don't think you saw any Republican Gay leaders support Deukmejian's veto of AB-1," an organizer observed, "and I expect the feeling among Republican Gays in California supporting that bill is shared by Republican Gays across the country."

Republican Gays have taken some comfort from the silence of the Reagan Administration on Gay concerns since taking office, thwarting "pro-family" groups from succeeding on such issues as the anti-Gay Family Protection Act, now dead in Congress.

On the state and city level, the dominance of the Democratic Party in urban politics has given Republican Gays few of their own party members in elected office to lobby, but most Republican officials from large cities have generally supported anti-bias measures.

In the past several months,

however, Republican Gays have become increasingly uneasy over whether the Reagan detente on Gay concerns might be ending, and New Christian Right forces becoming the dominant voice on Gay concerns. The White House recently announced it had increased the number of liaisons to religious groups from one to four, and the Reagan-Bush Re-Election Campaign has begun publicly linking Democrats with Gay civil rights in a courtship of Southern evangelical voters.

At the same time, the Republican National Committee chair joined with the Democratic National Committee chair in signing a "fair campaign practices" pledge that included a last minute amendment opposing "appeals to prejudice based on . . . sexual orientation."

Supporters of Reagan's re-election bid, notably the anti-Gay lobby Christian Voice, have announced their own independent campaign to appeal to anti-Gay voters with television ads publicizing the Democrats' appeal to Gay voters.

"There needed to be an organization to provide some balance," said San Francisco political consultant Bruce Decker, who attended the Washington meeting and worked with organizers. "We need to put together an organization that could act as the conscience, both on a political and philosophical level, addressing the double standard that appears to exist."

Those interested in more information or supporting the organization should contact CAIR through Post Office Box 15145, Washington, D.C. 20003.

In their opening purpose statement the group wrote, "We have remained on the sidelines for too long. We believe it is time to marshal our numbers and resources . . ."

## Agnos Restores AIDS Education Funding

Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-SF) Chair of the Assembly Ways & Means Subcommittee #1 on Health and Welfare announced last week that the subcommittee voted on Tuesday, May 8th, to restore state funding for AIDS education programs.

The committee voted to allocate \$1 million for community-based AIDS projects, doubling the \$500,000 set aside last year for similar programs and eliminated by Governor Deukmejian in his proposed 1984-1985 budget.

According to Assemblyman Agnos, "Currently 15 local organizations throughout California have state contracts for

AIDS education and outreach programs. These community-based agencies are the backbone of the effort to educate those groups at high risk of contracting AIDS." Agnos also noted the dramatic increase of AIDS cases in California in the past year. "We have twice as many diagnosed AIDS cases as we had in this state last year," said Agnos. "It would be a tragic mistake to curtail AIDS education now."

"Until researchers develop an effective treatment and vaccine, education is our only defense against this devastating disease. The state has a responsibility to assist the agencies providing these important services."

# THE BENEFIT EVENT OF THE YEAR IS NOW ALMOST COMPLETELY SOLD OUT

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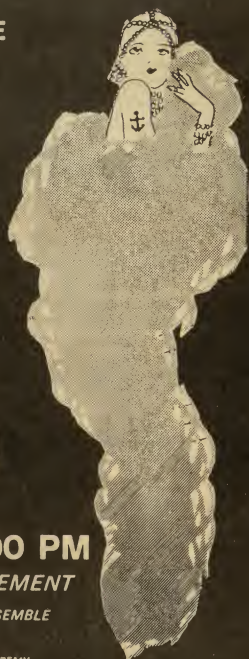
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VOL. XIV NO. 20 MAY 17, 1984

NEXT ISSUE OUT: MAY 24

## VIEWPOINT

### The SFPD BJ Caper

The citizenry of San Francisco can't even have a bang-up old-fashioned scandal these days without "sexual orientation" sticking its nose in the goo. We refer to the (was he Gay or wasn't he Gay) graduate of the police academy who was serviced by a vice squad-hired hooker. As part of the city's vice and target of that self-same vice squad, we sense we have something to crow about. If nothing else, to put our 69-cents worth in.

#### PUBLIC SEX

The Gay community should be the last one in the world to raise an eyebrow over a sex act, much less a public sex act. Who among us hasn't had the pleasure of each and both more times than we could care to remember? (Some people say we invented public sex.) In the same vein, witnessing sex take place six inches beyond the tip of our Marlboro Light evokes little more than a flick of the ash.

The picture tilts when someone gets in trouble for a public sex act. PSA's are a hard act to defend. What we have bitterly fought over have been vice cops limply parading as sexual decoys. Send out a hunky rookie bulging out of his 501's. Let him give the come-on — even if he has to fondle his tumescent member — then bust the arm whose hand had reached for that forbidden fruit. We've always sensed that the sexual decoy is a twisted bird indeed.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Police perennially pass themselves off as agents of moral probity. How often have we heard how "it" all disgusts them. Their archenemies never cease to be the purveyors of sex: the pimps, the hookers, the porno makers, the flashers, the peeping Toms. SF police have spent nine years of resources and energy taking apart the likes of the Mitchell brothers. Exactly why, one wonders. Such righteousness is a marvel.

Yet we all know that their mores and morals are not much better than the people they patrol.

Two other things are constants. They resist reform and they don't talk when there's trouble in the stationhouse. Like their opposites in crime, nobody can stand a snitch. Yet we the citizenry are constantly urged by these very nonsnitchers to snitch on anyone we suspect from siphoning off office paper clips, to shoplifting, to cheating on the IRS.

And like manna from the camp god, Pan, we have in our midst a 21-gun salute police department scandal. Enmeshed are recruits, rookies, vice cops, sergeants, and even a lieutenant. The prank itself was worthy of Archie Bunker. Wholesale asshole. But it was *actually* executed, and the shit has been bouncing off the fan blades ever since. True to form, the press has been blamed for baring the bad news.

What should be our reaction . . . ?

PD apologists say the whole affair was only a little joke, blown all out of proportion by the enemies of the PD.

As the timeless butt of many a police joke, as the handcuffs are snapped on, as they're pushed into the back of a squad car, as they're thrown into the queens' tank — Gay men and Lesbians might well join in on the little joke and laugh ourselves silly as the boys in blue twist on the fickle penis of fate.

Paul Lorch

## LETTERS

### Don't Capitulate on Clubs

★ Political opportunism is seldom far from any decision that effects the San Francisco gay community. Certain elements of its leadership continue to usurp public opinion in order to gain access to power that will reflect their insatiable ambitions.

The attempt by certain prominent leaders of the gay community to close bathhouses in San Francisco is an obvious case in point. Remedies such as this "noble action," based in fear and impotence, are politically expedient. Such methods of manipulating public ignorance, seldom find validity in their final hour of examination.

The closing of bathhouses is an extremely innane attempt at political retribution. A treatise that vows servitude to "leaders" who, in their minds, act and speak as our voices. It is curious that such action five or ten years ago would have mobilized thousands in protest and would have been viewed as an attempt to undermine our community's goals. Today, in 1984, reaction has become the political mainstay; food for thought in an ever-growing debilitating political environment.

It is evident that politics has superseded any rational attempt to understand and solve this growing health crisis known as AIDS. Instead, what has been substituted for public education and behavioral change, is a judgement based in fear; an action based in failure; leadership that lacks conviction.

Unfortunately, difficult problems need profound solutions. To capitulate under pressure is in essence defeat. If one believes the perverse images impaled upon us daily, then we are victims to our own crimes. If one defines these images and exonerates themselves, we have taken the first step towards deliberating a solution to this crisis.

Garland R. Kyle, MA  
Manhattan Beach

### Death Notices

★ One of the best things that you have done, and I hope continue to do, is to list those who have died from the effects of AIDS. While it is not pleasant reading, it is one way to bring home to all of us that this plague exists and kills. Too often we hear of this disease as something affecting unknown anonymous people. It has to be personalized so that all of us in the gay community understand the possible impact it may have on each of us.

Fortunately I am over fifty and have had a lover for more than 25 years so the likelihood of my exposure is slim.

Unfortunately for those in their sexual prime — orgasm can become more important than life. Witness syphilis, which killed until a few decades ago, but which certainly did not stop intercourse.

The community must accept personal responsibility, refrain from casual sex and use condoms and common sense. And grow up.

Robert Wallace  
Mill Valley

### Falwell Not Welcome

★ About the upcoming scheduled Jerry Falwell-Phyllis Schlafly conference on "The Family" to be held in San Francisco, I want the people and government of our city to declare these bigots and their conference unwelcome here.

Surely, as a tactic, we don't want to make martyrs of the bigots. We know how this helps them. We remember how it helped Hitler. More important to his takeover, however, was the complicity of those who stood to gain or were afraid to lose. And many Americans now, like Germans 50 years ago, want to believe Jerry Falwell, Phyllis Schlafly, Ronald Reagan and all who use the same tactics and play on the same fears and dreams every demagogue and dictator has ever

employed. Only now, they've added Hollywood and hell itself!

And though time is running out for the new fascists to complete their plans, we people in the Bay Area are strong and aware with a long tradition of civil liberties, including the Free Speech Movement. We don't want to believe hatred disguised as ideas. We do want to transform dualistic thinking and divisiveness into unity and sharing, I believe.

Krisga  
San Francisco

### More Papers

★ Just a quick note of appreciation for your doubling of our shipment, each week, of *B.A.R.* The paper is incredibly popular; both boxes are gone by Sunday afternoon now — and we often get phone calls from regulars who can't make it to the store, reserving copies. Thanks for the quality job!

Richard Labonte  
A Different Light Bookstore  
Los Angeles

### Jucier Tales

★ What I've really liked in *B.A.R.*, far more than the sex, was the strict adherence to Quentin Crisp's adage, "Why keep up with the Joneses when you can drag them down to your level." For this same reason I have also been a fan of Boyd McDonald's *Straight to Hell* magazines and books, and his Christopher Street column. It's not the sex; it's the style.

I guess what I've always liked about being Gay was the relief I've had from the strictures of life as a suburban mall rat, a bored middleclass father of three, or a simple octogenarian talking about new strains of crabgrass. Unfortunately, most Gay publications have become fodder for the Gay versions of these people. That's why my loyalty has been to *B.A.R.*

What I've always wanted to see in *B.A.R.* is not a tired leatherqueen's cock, but I've always wanted to see Lady Di-Fi on the front page, dressed as a leather dominatrix — probably a role she'd do well. After all, she sure enjoys fireman rubber drag. Do that and I'll tell you about an adventure in a bathroom with one of the 70's greatest washed-up teen heartthrobs.

David Kaye  
San Francisco

### More Comedy Sought

★ Your plans for the new, improved *B.A.R.* according to your recent editorial sound great — sort of coming-of-age of the paper, as the same thing happens in Gay life.

While you're revising the format, why not have a steady humor section with things like that "Sound of Music" parody? That one took some doing.

Warren Ruscher  
Millbrae

### All Around

★ Three cheers to Bill Wood for pointing the way with "The Task Force on AIDS Funding Education." Such an effort is both necessary and responsible. It is simply good accounting practice to require an audit of where our donations are going, and how much good they do. I have often wondered who was watching out for our interests as a Gay community on such matters. It is heartening to realize that we gays ourselves are acting responsibly to monitor our own progress.

C. David Martenson  
San Jose

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# LETTERS

## Get Busy in Contra Costa

★ Do you live in Contra Costa County? That means from Richmond and El Cerrito to Martinez and the Concord/Walnut Creek area! Your state senator is the anti-gay Daniel Boatwright. He voted NO on your job security rights when he voted NO on AB-1. There is a courageous city councilwoman from Martinez who will try to unseat him in the June primary. It will be very difficult but not impossible to unseat this homophobic legislator. This woman is Diana Patrick. She deserves your support. If we don't help her, what kind of message will this send to the wavering legislators in Sacramento?

If you are interested in helping her, call the No-on-Boatwright Task Force at 849-3983 or 526-8912. We would like to organize a support party for Ms. Patrick as well as precinct work and other appropriate activities. Contra Costa gays and lesbians: now is your turn for human rights. Please call now; the election is less than a month away.

Armand J. Boulay  
Berkeley

## Sent Cat!

★ A.D. MacDonald's letter prompts me to write. Further bad rap must be aired detailing the true hazard inherent in any PWA having a furry feline as a housepet. Quantities of spores are daily shed by all cats (including some birds and pups and horses) — namely, *Toxoplasma gondii* and perhaps cryptosporidium. The pussycats' tongue baths spread these endemic parasites' eggs so uniformly into the coat that this activity renders kitty resting places (your quilt, pillows, sofas, countertops, etc.) potentially dangerous. The licking of its human's hands, etc. is more of an immunological affront.

Unfortunately, the GMHC precaution (#8, page 25, N.Y. Native, 1-3-83) that litterbox changing be done using rubber gloves does not seem to cover the possibilities. The likelihood my late friend expired with encephalitis as a result of the intimate contact with his pet (Tina even lapped her water from Hugo's waterpik reservoir) inspires me to tell PWA's who may circumvent such a needless assault on their systems.

Rick Mechtly  
Panorama City

P.S. On the other hand, both parasites are simply with us all and should be ordinarily dormant. I confess, I too am a cat fancier.

## The Straight Screw

★ Close down the baths why? Pardon the pun but do they screw their workers when it comes to pay? There are legitimate businesses that remain open yet screw their employees. One business I know is getting away with this. They are located in Jack London Village and here in SF. Take it from one who knows. I have worked at both locations and the practice seems to be a customary tradition.

I had been trying to collect pay three months due. Yes, checks are written but not signed. Payment is given in small quantities. Excuse given was not enough money in register. I was a cashier and was fully aware of the transactions. So I ask you, do you wish to support a deli like this?

John G. McCarthy  
San Francisco

## On GOP & Char

★ Re your article entitled "Empress Char Goes Into GOP Politics" of May 3, 1984.

Having known Chuck Morrow (Empress Char) for many years and having observed his outstanding accomplishments throughout those years, it would be interesting to see a comparative chart between Chuck Morrow and his apparent chief critic, Republican party executive director, Don Bowden. My prediction would be: Morrow - 10; Bowden - 0.

It has now become clear why the Republican party cannot successfully compete in San Francisco politics — rejection of responsible citizens by shallow thinking party officials such as Don Bowden. With this man at their helm, the Republican party can expect to remain very low key in the Bay Area.

Bob Shore  
San Francisco

## CRIR on Parade

★ It is unlikely that the CRIR will appear in this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day parade due to their highly unpopular and treasonous endorsement of Reagan's reelection. Are they really so naive as to believe Reagan's position on gay rights to be any better, if not worse, than Deukmejian's? Just consider that two of the Reagan Administration's officials are scheduled to speak at the anti-gay program here in July. And it's well-known that Reagan's staunchest support comes from the most homophobic groups, ranging from the Moral Majority to the Ku Klux Klan.

How then can any gays support Reagan? Perhaps his insane arms build-up and reckless military maneuvers somehow enhance their macho image! I think it's more likely, however, that gays who support Reagan are wealthy enough that they are benefiting from his cruel economic and anti-environmental policies. This selfish

concern apparently takes priority over "individual rights."

I remember the last two years at the gay parade that two Lesbians dressed as nuns roller skated along the parade route and carried signs which read "Reagan Is A Fart." This year I hope everyone will be carrying such signs and wave them in the faces of the CRIR, if indeed they dare show their faces.

Gloria Pendleton  
San Francisco

P.S. Are there any women in the CRIR?

## Sucking on Cops

★ Would the six officers be suspended for hiring a male prostitute to orally copulate an unwilling female officer in the same kind of public sex scene they handcuffed the gay male officer in? Or . . . would they be terminated?

Those six police officers should be terminated! This looks like a clear case of discipline with discrimination for the heterosexual male again. Haven't we let one Dan White free already? Please, not again, San Francisco.

Jesus Delgado  
San Francisco

## Public Sex of SFPD Academy Graduates — Similarities

★ People who have counseled other male victims of male rape usually find that the male rapist does not identify himself as gay at all! However, the victim is frequently an unwilling gay male. When you witness media reports of so-called, "Homosexual Murders" or "Homosexual Rape," remember the rapist or murderer is usually NOT GAY identified by himself or others. The terms Homosexual Rape and Homosexual Murder are misleading as though the acts had anything to do with anybody's preference.

Let's hear "Heterosexual Murder" and "Heterosexual Rape." What an outrage! What a cover-up to continue victimizing gay men. Just pretend they are doing it to themselves by blaming the victim with misleading reports.

This is often the police report to the public and the press. With sick officers on the SFPD like the six suspended for raping a fellow gay male officer, what kind of truth or justice do we expect from the SFPD in their dealings with gay people?

Terry Hines  
San Francisco

## Parasites & Conventioneers

★ Since the SF Health Dept is going to be checking the pots and pans when food is being served to the conventioneers, they should also check the food handlers.

In the February 21, 1980 *New England Journal of Medicine*, Dr. Selma Dritz, Department of Public Health SF, reported "An average of 10% of all patients and asymptomatic contacts reported to the SF Department of Public Health because of positive fecal samples or cultures for ameba, giardia, and shigella infections were employed as food handlers in public establishments; and almost 5% of those with hepatitis were similarly employed."

Since nothing has been done to correct the problem, and the number of cases are growing geometrically, maybe this is the time to check all food handlers for parasitic diseases.

I would hate to see the Democrats go home with diseases caught in San Francisco.

Stew Anderson  
San Francisco

## Wretched Film

★ I have seen the film *Privates on Parade*, almost. I had to leave the theater before I became sick by what I had seen.

I went to this movie only because I had a special rate ticket which was about to expire. Personally, I'm rather tired of drag movies. The year of the rat and what seems to be years of drag queens in films are curiously overlapping.

Later I remembered an article in the April 5 issue. It was an interview with Dennis Quilley by Steve Warren. There was also a short review of the same film by the same author. Why it was not mentioned that this comic group was machine gunned to death well into the movie is dumbfounding.

This film is being advertised as a comedy, complete with rave reviews of its amusing nature, complete with a member of the Monty Python group.

If I had known this movie was a John Waters film starring Divine and Edith Massey, I would expect such ludicrous trash. They at least admit to hawking garbage humor.

Do you not think that a review in a homosexual publication would have been appropriate? Did I have the misfortune of missing a previous review?

Please don't tell me you didn't want to spoil the plot.

Charles Myers  
San Francisco

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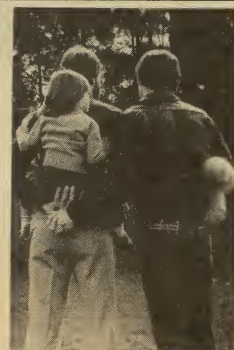
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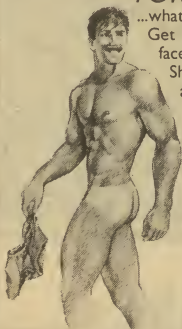
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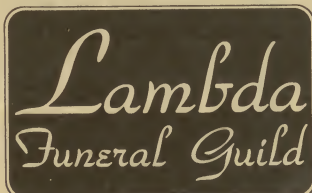
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## LETTERS

### Female Liberation

★ At first I thought it was the reawakening of con-  
science, later I thought it was getting a little ridiculous,  
now I'm convinced it's absolutely pathological.

I'm talking about the ideological excessiveness that  
brands the male half of humanity as criminal oppressors  
for the purpose of liberating women. I'm concerned that  
this has become a form of "grouptalk" in the people  
for left-of-center social change. I'm also convinced that  
it's a very dangerous assumption that will only feed the  
vicious circle of sexual oppression in the end. And yet  
this assumption that men oppress women more than  
the reverse is fast becoming the dominant view, if indeed  
it isn't already.

For example, in the May 3rd issue of *B.A.R.*, Carmen  
Vazquez nonchalantly equates all men with racists and  
fag-bashers for the incidence of female abuse by men.  
The fact is, most women-beaters were themselves  
physically abused by their mothers when small. It can  
ever only be an issue of cyclical violence and never an  
"us-them, good guys vs. bad guys, men vs. women"  
issue. It's different with real minorities: gays and blacks  
DO have it worse than straights and whites. With  
women, however, it's, at best, an unresolved academic  
question.

Of course women deserve the ERA, equal pay for  
equal work, abortion rights, etc. But to pursue these  
ends divorced from the less "politically digestible" agenda  
of men's liberation is futile. The bottom line is that  
women can only expect to be liberated to the extent that  
both sexes of humanity have fully actualized their an-  
drogynous wholeness.

What to do? Hold up your love for your gay (and  
straight) brothers right next to your political conscience.  
Face the discrepancies. If it's all right to love men, then  
it's all right to see that our weaknesses do translate into  
social disadvantages that deserve their own political  
agenda.

John Morrison  
San Francisco

### Convention March a Farce

★ I am one faggot who is *not* going to attend "The  
National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights" which gay  
Democrats are planning for July. During March and  
April, gay Democrats connived to deny me my rights.  
The only reason they did this was because the  
Democratic Convention was coming to town, and they  
knew that the Democratic Party would be very pleased  
at them for making it possible to close every gay  
bathhouse and private club in the United States. Now,  
after that, they want me to march to the Democratic  
Convention to petition for my rights. That hardly makes  
sense.

The advertising of these gay Democrats doesn't make  
any sense, either. They want me to come to a demonstra-  
tion, which will make it possible for what they call  
"outstanding speakers" to get on television. Not only  
do they call this an "historic event," but they have the  
gall to ask me for money for it. Look at what they're  
offering me for my money. A minute of two on the na-  
tional news. An aerial shot of a mob in front of the  
Moscone Center. A few seconds of two guys with their  
arms around each other. Move up to the "Thank God  
I'm Gay" sign. Move over to some badly-done drag-  
queens. Wind it up with some dyke shouting platitudes  
into a microphone. Fade out into the cheering crowd.  
That's all. At the very most, I might get a ten-minute  
spot on the McNeil/Lehr News Hour, watching people  
like Harry Britt dazzle the nation with their ability to  
give meaningless answers to meaningless questions.

None of this will change anyone's opinion of me being  
a faggot. It will do absolutely nothing to safeguard or  
gain my civil rights. Those "Proposed Demands" aren't  
worth a wet fart. This whole thing is only a televised  
campaign commercial for a few gay Democrats wheel-  
ing their way into more secret meetings with their  
Democratic bosses, and who are the only people who  
could possibly gain anything by it.

On the subjective side, I'd march through the streets  
with thousands of faggots and dykes, getting all excited  
in the electricity of the crowd. But where will I end up?  
In front of an ugly stage set up in front of an ugly  
building, listening to a line-up of dangerous strangers  
give monotonous speeches which I've heard a million  
times, which are packed full of lies, and which have  
nothing to do with anything agreeable in my life. To  
add injury to insult, I have to be quiet and act like I  
approve of what they're doing, or else their "Safety"  
Monitors will call the cops on me — like when their  
"Safesex" Monitors called the cops on my private club,  
because I went there to have sex that they couldn't  
control.

I'm sorry, but when I want to spend money and time  
being bored, insulted and lied to by strangers, I go to  
a bar. It's almost worth it when I'm getting drunk and  
scouting trout. It's more than worth it if I reel one in  
by the sixth drink. I'll be there when the "Safedrink"  
Monitors call the cops on the bar. Then, there'll be an  
"historic event" I'll be sure to attend.

Tim Speck  
San Francisco

### Pushing Perkins

★ So Steve Perkins is leaving us? Now that's odd, I  
was under the impression that he had left our galaxy  
a long time ago. Godspeed, Mr. Perkins, wherever you  
are.

George McConnell  
San Francisco

### Phony Science

★ Re: McKusick/Conant AIDS conference (B.A.R.  
May 10, 1984).

The conference described shows not only the dangers  
of unlimited funding for "research" but also a total lack  
of intellectual responsibility by the participants. I don't  
want to endorse the paranoid ideas in your last issue's  
letters, but this sounds very much like a conference of  
Soviet Political Scientists on dealing with dissidents.  
Social scientists always face ethical problems in these  
areas, but Conant/McKusick seem to have solved that  
matter by rejecting ethics altogether. ("We're not con-  
cerned about civil rights — we're concerned with  
behavioral modification.")

The proposed function of  
the group that it would  
"determine what sexual  
behavior to most likely  
transmit AIDS" is intel-  
lectual arrogance at an absurd  
extreme. No respectable  
social scientist could en-  
dorse the second goal,  
"to convince Gay men to  
change these behaviors."  
Science is to be neutral, not  
the authoritative allocator  
of behavior in a commu-  
nity. Who endorsed this meeting? (Not to mention how  
much did it cost, and what genuine AIDS research  
could have replaced it?)

A great deal of attention has been directed to  
McKusick's studies of "behavioral change" based on  
his "surveys." The ethics of social research require that  
a survey released to the public specify a summary of  
the collection methods for the data and their reliability  
(see the qualifications on the Gallup, Field, and Har-  
ris polls in the newspapers). McKusick offers nothing  
to validate his findings, they are not reproducible, and  
they have no reliability tests. (My suspicions of his  
methods were personally verified when I was given one  
of his exit survey requests which I returned — but never  
received a copy of the survey. On the other hand, he  
advertises for self-selected neo-celibates in *B.A.R.*  
If his data are not totally fictitious, they are most  
certainly not within any parameters of acceptable survey  
research.) Nevertheless McKusick and others presume  
to build on this totally worthless set of data command-  
ments to proscribe inappropriate sexual behavior.

There are substantial logical fallacies in the medical  
aspects as well — ones which would never be tolerated  
at a legitimate conference on this matter. (The lack of  
any hard data is part, but not all, of the problem here.)  
First, the assertion that multiple sex encounters  
increase the risk of AIDS is problematic. It makes some  
sort of intuitive sense, but we do not find prostitutes (male  
or female) at the high risk group for AIDS. There is  
certainly not enough evidence to make social policy. The  
tendency here is to fall into an error that exposure is  
cumulative, like radiation, rather than random.

Second, one of the difficulties of research is that it  
has been nearly impossible to transmit AIDS. Never-  
theless the medical community (later reported because  
of the desire to gain research funds) made hysterical  
statements about the danger of contagion. We are still  
suffering from the paranoia this irresponsible conduct  
created. This conference does nothing to improve that  
situation.

Third, there was no discussion of the influence of  
multi-variate causes. As I understand the French model,  
the virus is believed to be transmitted to many more  
people than show systematic disorders. Even with the  
virus, there has to be some other variable involved. It  
is not true "if you get AIDS you die."

Fourth, the conference seems totally committed to  
the "transmissible agent" dogma. Organisms have been  
exchanging body fluids for millions of years without  
contracting AIDS. While there seems some indication  
blood may be involved (although the number of vampi-  
res contracting AIDS has also been minimal), it is  
purely conjecture to speculate any other body fluids are  
instrumental. The conference proposed a "suspected  
high risk" behavior as "... the introduction of feces,  
semen or blood into body cavities, including oral sex  
during which a participant ejaculates into a partner's  
mouth." My information is second hand here, but my  
research indicates this describes the sexual patterns of  
the majority of heterosexuals who, according to the San  
Francisco Department of Public Health, are not at risk  
of transmitting AIDS.

Rather than collecting money for further such  
activities, it would be more appropriate if the focus of  
those involved were 1) to treat the patients and 2) to  
develop scientifically valid studies of the etiology of the  
disease itself. Behavior modification has no valid func-  
tion here, and I would hope both the political and  
academic community would be more careful in the  
future about endorsing such ill-considered projects as  
those of McKusick and Conant.

Jerry Jansen, BA, MA,  
San Francisco

### Elephant Plug

★ We want to thank Fred Rogers of the Elephant Walk  
for adding another dining alternative Monday through  
Thursday and for taking the disco din out of dinner!  
It's a refreshing change to have piano music in the  
background which is easy on the ears while one is pleas-  
ing one's palate. The staff is outstanding and the cuisine  
served in a relaxed atmosphere is a most welcome  
innovation in the Castro.

We who are about to dine — salute you.

Dr. Lowell Houser  
Glenn Schmol





Senator Ed Davis (r.) is greeted by CRIR's Tom Peretti (l.) and guest Phil Moscone. (Photo: Rink)

## Ed Davis

(Continued from page 1)

The Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights honored the conservative Davis last week for his Yes vote on Assemblyman Art Agnos' AB-1, a bill which would have granted fair job employment rights to Gay people if it had not been vetoed by Governor George Deukmejian. Agnos endorsed the senator for re-election in a statement read at the banquet. Davis has since been outspoken in his support of Gay rights, recently reemphasizing that position in a *Los Angeles Times* guest editorial.

The sentiment at the fete, held at the modern South of Market Giftcenter, was expressed by the chair of the affair, former CRIR president Duke Armstrong. In introducing the guest he urged, "It is imperative that we welcome to our movement all those who have come, by whatever path, to understand the justice of our cause. It is the civilized thing to do to judge a man's worth with attention to where he has arrived rather than from where he has come from."

### GAY LIBERATION

Davis explained to the crowd that he had never arrested anyone in his 29 years as a police officer for sexual conduct, except "child molesters." He pleaded that his problems were with the Gay Liberation Front which he called "a pip," and claimed that "radicals" in that movement caused him problems. Davis specifically mentioned that some Gay people had attempted to plant a coffin in his front lawn and an alleged attempt by activists to investigate his daughter.

Morris Kight, the Los Angeles activist who founded GLF in 1969, told this reporter that he knew of no coffin-burying incident. He said there was a joke going around that Davis' family could be investigated but that no such thing happened. Morris said Davis was angry at the time because GLF attempted to bring public attention to a daily police harassment of Gay people with raids and arrests through entrapments.

### WHY HE VOTED YES

Davis, who was elected to the state Senate in 1980, said he probably would have voted against AB-1 in his first two years in Sacramento — based on "the nastiness of that movement in Los Angeles" but "you mellow and get a broader perspective."

The senator addressed the California Republican Assembly in Palm Springs in 1984. He explained that he told the GOP then that the party was perceived by many people as being elitist. Although well-known as a con-

servative, he told the Assembly, "If this party is to become the majority party, it must not only welcome people in but have programs and policies that make the party worthy of membership by all."

When AB-1 was introduced again this year, Davis said he thought about his Palm Springs address and decided that Gay people should not be denied employment just because of their sexual orientation.

The word got out that Davis might vote for AB-1, and he recalled that many religious people began bombarding him with telephone calls and letters. He said one lady told him, "We are Christians and we love the homosexual, but we do not think we should have to employ them." Davis said he told his wife, "Here is a nice Christian woman who loves homosexuals but she thinks we ought to starve them to death."

Davis said that he had faced riots and numerous stressful situations in his life, but he never experienced such hatred as he did when some people learned of his support for AB-1. He said he could not understand this because "I am a man who has identified as my Savior a man of love, of forgiveness, of redemption. I also never found one word about AB-1 in the gospels." In a reference to certain Bible passages that condemn homosexuality, Davis added, "I think there were anti-AB-1 people back there then; don't you think so?"

### I WILL SURVIVE

The former police chief recalled that one officer under his command in Los Angeles was himself arrested on a homosexual charge after being on the force for 23 years. Davis said, "Here this guy was, an exceptionally good officer for all of those years, and no one knew about his sex life. He was a wonderful person. If we had screened out people like him, we would have missed an awful lot of good work."

The new, mellowed Davis seemed to enjoy the laughter and applause and was relaxed about his coming re-election campaign in his conservative Los Angeles district. "I will survive," he related, "because my constituents are strong enough that they will not politically assassinate me."

Looking back on his Yes vote on AB-1 in March, Davis said, "I was in a situation and I just did the right thing. I am happy with what I did. I hope you will have AB-1, as it is a simple, basic right. And don't give up on the governor. He could sign AB-1 if you make a stronger case next time."

Davis was cheered as he concluded with one-third of the audience standing in tribute.

### AGNOS ENDORSEMENT

Democratic Assemblyman Art Agnos, who authored AB-1, sent a statement to the banquet that surprised the GOP crowd. He wrote, "I am pledged to support any Republican legislator who votes for AB-1 who is threatened because of that vote by a Democratic challenger. I pledge my formal endorsement, support, and my time to the re-election of Ed Davis, a conservative Republican who voted for justice." Agnos explained that the senator is being challenged by Andrew Martin, a Democrat who is attacking Davis for his AB-1 stand. Martin is expressing fear that "homosexuals will become role models for our developing children."

The Concerned Republicans received a tribute itself from Dolph Andrews, chair of the Republican County Central Committee. Andrews explained that this was the first time that a group had received the committee's coveted Golden Elephant award . . . CRIR also gave awards — to State Senator Milton Marks and Davis.

Guests included Marks; Municipal Judges Phil Moscone and Al Wollenberg; Supervisors Richard Hongisto, Willie Kennedy, Quentin Kopp, John Molinari, and Louise Renne; former Supervisor Lee Dolson; and Dr. Tim Wolfred, president of the Community College Board.

Entertainment was provided by twenty members of the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, which was presented with roses from Police Officer Paul Seidler.

Commenting on a few members who withdrew from the Republican Party after the governor's veto of AB-1, dinner host Duke Armstrong commented, "They never understood what we were about. For us it was personal; for them it was only politics of expediency. To the faint of heart I say, let them go. This queen is not for turning . . . We have lost the battle, not the war."

Armstrong reiterated Davis' earlier conclusion that the governor could sign AB-1 in 1986. He said, "The governor phrased his decision not to lock himself into a position of opposition for future years."

Looking about him to the 250 members and guests, Armstrong concluded that he was proud to be associated with CRIR because it is an organization that recognizes "individual rights, privacy, equality of treatment, and the recognition of the value of individual members." ■

G. Mendenhall

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## DUNCAN IDAHO

There is a ship on which two people are sent into cosmic awareness. The rebels, in Frank Herbert's S.F. novels *Dune* call that ship, *Worship and Friendship*. I have found that Love and Chess have something in common. Both are pretty meaningless without competent partners. I call my partner, Duncan Idaho, because on the deserts of Idaho where I come from, a duncan is known as someone who goes down on all the hot men of his dreams while searching for those two aspects of relationship.



(See Classified Ad: Body Services)

by Steve Perkins



# NGTF Ducks Dallas GOP Protest

## Gays Will Welcome Convention Gays (If Such There Be)

by George Mendenhall

"Demonstrate? That would be a very negative thing to do here. We work within the system. Demonstrating is not the Dallas style. If you are a Gay Republican here you keep quiet about it or you find yourself outside the Party."

Mike Richards, the director of the 500-member Dallas Gay Alliance, was making this statement — explaining that there would be few local Gay activists taking part in a planned demonstration outside of the Republican convention in Dallas, August 20-23. He urged, "Remember, after the convention other people can go home but we remain." Richards is a Gary Hart activist within the Democratic Party in Dallas — where Democrats are decidedly in the minority.

"Dallas is really a weird town," Dallas Lesbian activist Kindra Holt told this reporter. "People don't do anything up-front here. They want to do everything behind the scenes." However, Holt is attempting to get local Gay people to participate in an "Alliance for Justice in '84" rally outside of the convention. The effort is being organized by Blacks, women, the poor, and "we are starting to involve Gay groups if we can."

The National Gay Task Force decided this week to not partici-

participate in the Alliance and its director, Virginia Apuzzo, has no plans to address the rally. Holt said the NGTF decision was depressing but pleaded that it was probably urged by the local NGTF chapter. She called the Dallas chapter, "White, male, rich, and very conservative."

Jeff Jones, a national NGTF staff person in Washington, DC, said the alliance was "not a Gay group but a left-of-center coalition." He said the alliance has not addressed Gay concerns. Jones said, "The Dallas Gay community has indicated to us that they do not think it would be wise for us to participate." He concluded, "However, we recognize that individuals may want to participate in order to raise the level of participation by Republicans. We are not saying that people should not partici-

### GAY PARTICIPATION

Will there be any organized Gay activism at the GOP convention? Stan Aken, chair of Dallas's Gay Republican group called "Metroplex," said there will be a Gay Hospitality Center to welcome Gay visitors. He said a Gay Rights information booth might be set up at the convention if it can be arranged. Aken joined other local Gay people in stating, "Demonstrating is a little too liberal for us here. August is also a hot month here and peo-

ple don't like to stay out too long."

While there will be a number of openly Gay delegates at the Democratic convention here in July, Gay Republicans do not know of any person who will be an upfront Gay delegate at the GOP meet.

One Los Angeles Gay activist is making a concentrated effort to be appointed by Governor George Deukmejian. He has submitted his name to the governor for consideration. The governor has not released all of the names of the 175 delegates he has selected, but Frank Ricchiazzi, Vice President of L.A.'s Gay Republican group, Log Cabin, is hopeful that he will be one of them. His credentials are impressive.

Ricchiazzi is currently the chair of the GOP Assembly District in the Pasadena area and serves on the executive committee for the L.A. Republican Party. He said he was chosen for these positions although he is openly Gay. Ricchiazzi disclaimed "the stereotype that straight Republicans are anti-Gay."

The aspirant stressed that the governor makes most of the delegate appointments and that the selections are partly based on race and sex. He did not respond when asked if Gay people were considered a class in the governor's decisions.

The Dallas/GOP convention will convene during the evening hours in order to have maximum television coverage during prime time. The Democratic convention in July here will be for four days with long afternoon sessions planned. The Republicans are attempting to cut their sessions to two hours nightly for its three-day event as it has already determined its candidates — President Ronald Reagan and Vice President George Bush.

The GOP convention organizer, Ernest Angelo, told the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Larry Liebert that he was not concerned that the image created might be that the Republicans will be consorting with Texas oil barons in Dallas. Angelo countered that the Democrats would be going to San Francisco "where they can hang around with all their Gay friends."

# Dedication of Sha'ar Zahav's New Synagogue



(Photo: Rink)

Gay Congregation Sha'ar Zahav announced the dedication of its new synagogue on Sunday, May 20, at 1:30 p.m. The congregation extends an invitation to the entire community to join in the ceremony. The synagogue is at 220 Danvers at Caselli in the Upper Market area of San Francisco.

The dedication includes the following events:

- Carrying the Torah (first five books of the Old Testament) around the synagogue and then placing the Torah in the Ark. The tradition signifies welcoming the congregation to its new home.
- Readings and proclamations by Congresswoman Sala Burton and State Senator Milton Marks.
- Music and song by the Hallel Brothers and the Sha'ar Zahav Ensemble.
- Affixing the Mezzuzah (a

small wooden or metal box containing a portion of the Torah) to the doorpost. This symbolizes that the building is dedicated to Jewish use.

### • A reception.

The congregation's dream to have a "home of its own" became a reality following a non-stop fundraising campaign between May and October 1983. Over 1,000 people contributed to the fundraising effort: members, friends, family, and the San Francisco Bay Area community.

Established in 1977, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (a congregation with a particular outreach to the Gay and Lesbian Jewish community) has approximately 250 members. Sha'ar Zahav is a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). Services are held at the synagogue every Friday night at 8:15 p.m.

# Britt Paves Way for Stopping Sex

(Continued from page 1)

Kopp, Carol Ruth Silver, Bill Maher, Willie Kennedy, Doris Ward, and Richard Hongisto. At the Monday, May 14, supervisors' meeting Britt entered his proposal at the roll call phase of the agenda. This is the last of a day's meeting when noncalendar items are raised. The Britt plan was submitted and referred to committee. City Hall staffers said the Britt plan would go first to the Public Protection Committee. Supervisors Kennedy, Ward, and Hongisto are on this committee.

Within 24 hours several supervisors were reviewing their support of the Britt plan. In giving authority to Dr. Silverman, they realized they hadn't investigated the authority to do what.

Some of that "authority to do what" was revealed in a Tuesday *S.F. Chronicle* story. Some of that "authority" was not revealed because city officials weren't telling. The proposed regulations are under review by the mayor's office, police, and public health staffers the *Chronicle* reported. "Officials from the various departments involved in enforcing the rules said that the proposals are 'confidential' and declined comment on them."

The mayor's press aide, Tom Eastham, told the newspaper, "They are very preliminary at

this point — that's all I can say."

Britt said, "It has become clear to many people (the named none of them) that, because protecting people's health is the goal of licensing, inspecting, and reg-



Wendy Nelder doesn't want cops to play peeping toms. (Photo: Rink)

ulating bathhouses, the proper person to accomplish these things is the Director of Public Health, not the Chief of Police."

Britt also announced that he has asked City Attorney Agnost to prepare the legislation as quickly as possible. Britt hopes the change will be accomplished

before the end of the month.

Britt's colleague Wendy Nelder said she supports the Britt shift of authority because "the way we currently regulate bathhouses makes peeping toms out of police inspectors." Apparently Nelder finds it preferable for health inspectors to patrol as peeping toms. One of the regulations that has already been rumored is a prohibition against doors on all small bathhouse rooms. This would be the end of the private cubicles. All the same, in the past five years there have been no reports of police wandering through bathhouses looking for people having sex.

Nelder, thinking of the future, continued, "I don't want to see police put in a position of confrontation with the Gay community, when so many people are trying to improve relationships between differing groups in our city." Nelder is the daughter of former SF Police Chief Al Nelder, who now is a member of the Police Commission. Nelder said nothing about possible confrontations between Gay men and health inspectors.

What is being regulated in the bathhouses is not public health but sex. Sex between consenting adults — which by state law is legal. Sex between adults which up until Silverman's announcement to stop sex had been carried out in a private place. ■

P. Lorch

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# Fundraiser to Follow So. California Path

by Allen White

Bob Ross, Publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter* was honored by 175 to 200 people last Monday evening at a banquet in the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Ross said he plans to present a similar event every year at this time for at least the next seven years.

Though the evening was billed as a 50th birthday party for Ross, there was no question that the plan is to turn this event into a major annual fundraiser. In his remarks Ross spoke of the impact of last Saturday night's MECLA dinner in Los Angeles.

Ross recalled that seven years ago 125 people paid \$35 at the first Southern California MECLA dinner. Last Saturday night over 1400 people attended with almost a quarter of a million dollars being raised. MECLA is a political action group that contributes to campaigns of candidates who are supportive of Gay rights.

In his remarks, Ross said he believes more money can be raised in San Francisco over the next seven years than was raised in Los Angeles by MECLA. To make his case, he said that though these large sums of money are raised, there is still not a major Gay political figure in office in the City of Los Angeles. The LA Mayor has still to appoint his first openly Gay person to a commission. "Sometimes I have to wonder about our brothers and sisters down south," he said.

The publisher said that Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley's reason he had never appointed a Gay person is because nobody bothered to ask. "In San Francisco," Ross said, "we do ask." "We do put out money, we work for candidates and we do have a position of respect."

Ross would have been hard spent to put together a better

crowd to offer his challenge. At the dinner were several prominent state and local officials. These included Senator Milton Marks, City Supervisors Britt, Molinari, Renne, Hongisto and Kennedy, Sheriff Hennessey and



Publisher Bob Ross at his 50th birthday fundraiser.

Jim Foster representing Assemblyman Art Agnos. Chuck Forrester announced that Mayor Feinstein had proclaimed last Monday Bob Ross Day in the city. In the audience were dozens of people who would participate and capitalize on the inner-workings of political action committees.

With presentation followed by presentation, Ross accumulated enough plaques, scrolls and awards to fill a medium size wall. He graciously accepted the awards yet emphasized the use of his dinner as a springboard for his future project.

Bob Ross turned the half century mark on April 2, and his birthday was the theme of the

night. He put together the dinner on his own terms and it became obvious that he wanted to take credit or blame for the results. Virtually nothing was known about the dinner until the ticket holders arrived at the hotel. The entertainment was highlighted by several unknowns who turned in surprisingly fun performances. These included the aware and funny comic Danny Williams, Romanovsky & Phillips from Valencia Rose and a sparkling new group "City Lights." "City Lights" has just formed with several of their members formerly with Beach Blanket Babylon. The MC for the evening was Jose Sarria.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund and the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance will both share the profits from the dinner ticket sales. Each group is a political action committee committed to securing the election or appointment of public officials sympathetic to the human and civil rights of Gay men and Lesbians. The Non-Partisan Alliance focuses its efforts on Bay Area candidates for state, county and local government, while the Human Rights Campaign Fund works on the federal level. Further profits were realized by selling space in a program which was produced solely through donations. The Lesbian Rights Project will receive the program profits.



NGRA's Jean O'Leary joins the Hyatt Regency well-wishers at three-way fundraiser.

## States Street Shootout

(Continued from page 1)

case. District Attorney Investigator Ron Huberman said the case was becoming a legal chess game with the Gay community right in the middle.

Huberman said "it is a classic case where our community has stood up against crime." He noted that they

tracting the police, the victims stayed to follow through with the police report, and there has been subsequent cooperation.

Many who were blowing whistles that night have come forward as witnesses. To further strengthen the case, Huberman is requesting any of those who responded to the whistle blowing to contact him at 553-1756. He is also particularly interested in hearing from the owner of the BMW parked on States Street which reportedly received a bul-

let hole during the shooting.

Attorney Ken Cady said the case has been moved from Municipal to Superior Court and the defendants will be arraigned on May 23. He expects the case to go to trial in early July.

The defense attorneys tried to present their clients' actions as a prank and that the Gay men didn't know what was going on, and considered the attack a joke of some kind.

A. White

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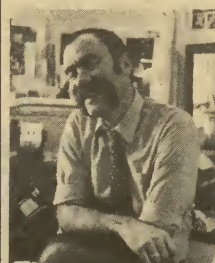


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# T-Room Sex: From One Can to Another *Part I:*

## The Legal Implications - What Happens to Those Who Are Caught?

by Mike Hippler

Land's End, Buena Vista Park, and Golden Gate Park have something in common. They are all sylvan wildernesses in the midst of a large and crowded city, places of peace and refuge for the weary urban dweller. They are also places where people have sex — lots of people, and most of them Gay. The reasons people have sex there are many and varied. Some do it because they like the anonymity and simplicity of casual outdoor encounters. Others do it because of the danger and thrill involved. Many are stuck in patterns established in an earlier era, when parks and toilets were some of the few places Gay people could have sex. Others simply like doing it in the Great Outdoors with the sun beating upon their backs and the sound of the surf in their ears.

Whatever their reasons, all who use the city's outdoor spaces for recreational activities of an amorous nature are running the same risk. Because they are breaking the law, they are all subject to arrest. And each year, although the vast majority escape detection, many do not. These are the unfortunate ones, the ones whose escapades have become nightmares, whose moments of pleasure in the woods have resulted in months of difficulty with the law. These are the ones whose public sexual practices have found an even more public forum — in San Francisco's Hall of Justice.

### WHERE THE CITATIONS ARE GIVEN

According to Ron Huberman, an investigator in the District Attorney's office, over the past 12 months there have been 124 citations issued for having sex in public — or for a related charge — in Golden Gate Park alone. Although by far the majority of these citations are given in the park, it is by no means the only place in the city where such citations are given. Other areas are Lafayette Park, Collingwood Park, Union Square, and Rindgold Alley, although in this city, wherever there is a spot of green, there is a site for a potential arrest.

Within Golden Gate Park, there are three main areas where people are cited. The first is at the ocean end of the park near the Beach Chalet, an area often referred to as "between the windmills." In January and February of 1982 there were between 50 and 60 arrests in that one area



The Beach Chalet off the Great Highway — a time-honored cruising area and perennially dangerous. (Photo: Rink)

alone. The second is in or near the toilet at 19th Avenue and South Drive, a key place for arrests in the past and the most frequently patrolled area in the past year. The third is the rose garden area off JFK Drive, a popular spot for joggers and errant museum visitors.

Surprisingly, although Buena Vista Park and Land's End are two of the most popular places in the city for outdoor sex, few people are ever bothered by the police there. One reason, according to the police, is that they usually make arrests only when people who live in the area complain. The residents of the Buena Vista Park area rarely complain about what goes on there, the police say, and there are no residents near Land's End. Besides, Land's End is within the jurisdiction of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and is patrolled by rangers of the National Park Service, who usually give warnings rather than citations.

### WHEN THE CITATIONS ARE GIVEN

Most of these citations seem to be given in waves. The Beach Chalet citations of early 1982 are one example. Later that year, in June 1982, there was a sweep of Lafayette Park. In June 1983, 28 people were cited in the Beach Chalet area, compared to only five in the entire park the month before. Following another lull, in August there were 19 incidents near the 19th Avenue toilet. In the first few months of 1984, the number of citations picked up again. No one knows the reasons for these waves, but most observers expect them to continue and to intensify as the Democratic Convention approaches.

### WHO GIVES THE CITATIONS

The police unit which is responsible for the great majority of these citations is the Tactical Squad. This is comprised of officers who are assigned rotating duty around the city for different purposes, and one of the assignments these officers are given is periodic undercover work in the park. The park's Mounted Police also write a number of citations but do not seem to relish giving them as much, according to some witnesses. The reason the police give for writing the citations is almost invariably the aforementioned "citizen complaint." In the case of the Golden Gate Park toilet citations, they add that there is a children's playground nearby. When asked to produce written evidence of such complaints, however, the police rarely can provide it. They respond that most complaints are registered over the phone and furthermore, that the people who make these complaints do not identify themselves.

### WHAT LAWS ARE BROKEN

The actual laws the suspects are accused of breaking are misdemeanor disorderly conduct laws. The most common among these are 647a, Lewd and Lascivious Behavior; 647b, Soliciting and/or Prostitution; and 647d, Loitering in a toilet. They may also be charged with 314, Indecent Exposure, or, when the arresting policeman is an undercover cop, 242, Battery. ("Battery" can be construed as a touch, as in the touch of an undercover cop's penis. It does not have to be a strike or a blow.)

Most suspects are cited for 647a, but by far the most dangerous of these, according to Huberman, is 647d, which he calls "one of the most dangerous laws on the books." "The problem with 647d," he continues, "is that there is no requirement that you do anything. All you have to do is to be there. 'Loiter' is the key word, and there is no definition for loitering, as well as no time limit. The police have used that to arrest anyone in a toilet. Often they make assumptions as to what is going on."

### WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SUSPECT

When a person engaged in public sex — or suspected of engaging in public sex, loitering, or whatever — is arrested by a

policeman, he is usually given a written citation and released on his own recognition. This procedure is similar to the issuance of a traffic ticket, which simply requires a suspect to appear in court on a certain date. He is not routinely placed under arrest or taken to the station. However, there are certain factors which will result in his arrest. The main one is the lack of proper identification. Because the police need to know if there is an outstanding warrant for a suspect's arrest and because they cannot run a check on him if he does not have proper I.D., they will take a suspect to the station if he is without it. They may also take someone to the station if they feel that the offense will continue after their departure. This is often invoked in the case of prostitution or in the case of a fight. Another reason is if the police feel that the suspect is a "danger" to himself — if he is on drugs, for example.

### ARRAIGNMENT AND/OR DISMISSAL

If a person is arrested and taken to the station, he is photographed and fingerprinted — "booked" — and usually held over for arraignment — a court appearance involving a formal reading of the charges. If he is merely cited, he is expected to appear for arraignment on the date specified. A great many of those cited, fortunately, never have to appear in court, for before the case is due, it is dismissed by the District Attorney's office. According to Huberman, this happens in 80% of the cases of those arrested for 647a, the Lewd and Lascivious Behavior law. The reason for this is that the District Attorney's office takes the view that if the area involved is not exposed to public view, the behavior is not lewd, for no one is there to witness it. There must be a third person involved, and a policeman does not qualify as a third person. However, if the activity takes place in an area where a third person might likely come along — in the middle of a pathway or in a picnic area, for example — this reasoning may not apply.

There are other reasons that the District Attorney's office may dismiss charges. One is if the DA's office feels that an undercover policeman has entrapped the suspect by encouraging him to break the law. If a cop wears jeans and a T-shirt, wanders through the bushes, makes

eye contact, and encourages another man to approach him, then there is "a reasonable expectation of sex," says Huberman, "and you can't blame a guy for making the moves."

Even though a large number of cases are dismissed, Huberman notes that many are not, especially those involving repeat or "blatant" offenders, and he cautions that the large number of dismissals should not be taken as evidence that the District Attorney's office does not care or even condones this kind of behavior. "It is not OK to do this, as far as the law is concerned," says Huberman, "and it is not our policy to dismiss these cases automatically. All we can do is to look at each case individually and to judge them one by one. There are many different factors involved, and it is all very complicated."

### COURT APPEARANCES

Those persons who have been given citations but whose cases have not been dismissed must show up in court for their arraignment on the date specified. When they do, they are given a copy of the police report and asked if they have a lawyer, can arrange for one, or would like for the court to appoint them one. Then they are assigned another court date, usually two or three weeks later. This second court date is called the plea and counsel. The defendant is asked how he pleads, and if he pleads innocent, the trial date may be set. Few of these cases ever go to trial, however, for almost all those charged plead guilty and enter the diversion program instead. (If, by the way, a person does not show up for a court date, a bench warrant is issued for his arrest, which is usually a more serious matter than the original crime.)

### PENALTIES

Diversion is a program available in San Francisco (but not in some other communities) whereby a person may perform a certain number of hours of community service in lieu of paying a fine or serving jail time. His sentence is set aside, but his arrest record is not. A person may enter the diversion program only once. It is a privilege and not a right. A more serious penalty than diversion (and a less common one) is probation. Here the sentence is given but not invoked. Instead, a set of conditions is imposed which a person must meet. If he does not, he will have to serve a jail term. Fortunately, few people arrested for sexually-related disorderly conduct offenses must serve probation. Fewer still go to jail outright after being found guilty in a trial. But it does happen, and people should be aware of that, says Huberman. "People tend to think of the penalties involved as being slight," he says, "and in most cases, they are, legally-speaking. But there is a lot more to it than that. Even for those whose cases are dismissed, the time, the trouble, the trauma, and the expense can be great."

M. Hippler

**NEXT WEEK:** Mike Hippler interviews a counselor at the Pride Foundation who helps people charged with disorderly sexual conduct to find lawyers, a lawyer who represents many of those cited, and a "suspect" himself, one who was caught and whose case was not dismissed.

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# Navy Report on Gays

(25 Years in the Closet)

by Larry Bush

A major U.S. Navy report, kept secret since 1956, found that there was no basis for the claim that Gays could not be acceptable members of the military or serve in sensitive security positions.

Nevertheless, the 1956 report recommended that the Navy retain its policy of discharging all homosexuals. In this way, the Navy would not appear more tolerant than the general public.

The report also endorsed instruction for all Navy recruits suggesting that homosexuals should be viewed like "a person who would walk into a house and kill the occupants, for homosexuality is a killer, too."

The report released to Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) under a Freedom of Information Act request, said that it based its conclusions in part on two studies conducted on Gay service members.

One study reported on 183 men known to be homosexual prior to World War II, with 132 of the men permitted to serve. A second study was of 75 men already in the military who were homosexual but permitted to serve as a study on the performance of homosexual soldiers.

Neither of those studies has been released.

"One concept which persists without visible supporting data, but which cannot be disproved at this time because of the absence of data, is the idea that homosexual individuals and those who have indulged in homosexual behavior cannot acceptably serve in the military," the report concluded.

The Crittendon Committee report was buried by brass.

"There have been many known instances of individuals who have served honorably and well, despite being exclusively homosexual," the report stated.

The U.S. military policy of specifically barring all Gays first began in a 1943 regulation, the report stated.

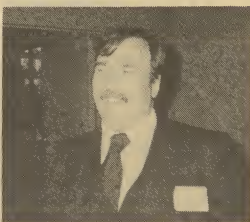
Defense Department officials said that the policy barring Gays remains in effect, with 1,500 to 2,000 men and women discharged for homosexuality each year. About half of those discharged are members of the U.S. Navy, Pentagon officials said.

The 1956 report, totaling 658 pages, was prepared by a special commission of Navy and Marine officers appointed by the Secretary of the Navy. The commission, known as the Crittendon Committee after its chairman, Navy Captain S.H. Crittenden, Jr., was formed in December 1955 and completed its report in March 1956.

The committee report is the most extensive examination of the military's policy of excluding Gays to be made public. The military policy has come under increasing fire in recent years through both court challenges and political pressure, as Gay rights advocates have asked both Democratic and Republican presidential candidates to pledge to end the policy.

This year Senator Gary Hart (D-CO) has told Gay groups that he does not believe the military should bar recruits based on sexual orientation *per se*, so long as acceptable codes of conduct were obeyed.

Former vice president Walter



Bay Area Reporter D.C. correspondent, Larry Bush. (Photo: Ted Poole)

Mondale has told Gays he has "no opinion" on the issue, but called for a special commission to study the issue of sensitive security jobs. Current federal policy also bars Gays from jobs in the CIA and other top secret agencies.

The Crittendon Report includes extensive testimony from expert witnesses and medical officers on homosexuality, from Naval intelligence investigators on methods used to solicit confessions of homosexuality, and from chaplains and commanders. Both civilian and military witnesses testified to the committee, the report states. The study was kept confidential in order to avoid a public impression that the Navy had a "homosexual problem."

"A nice balance must be attained in changes of policy to ensure that public sensibilities are not offended in any attempt to promote a forward looking program," the report states in its major findings.

"It is not considered to be the best interest of the Military Departments to liberalize standards ahead of the civilian climate; thus insofar as practicable it is recommended that the Navy keep abreast of developments but not attempt to take a position of leadership," the report states.

The Crittendon Committee criticized the Navy policy of requiring physicians and chaplains to inform investigators of any person who wanted to discuss homosexual feelings, saying the policy had forced doctors to "adopt subterfuges" and that the policy was "frustrating to the patient and may be detrimental to the service."

The report also recommended that suspected Gays not face a psychiatric examination "after a person has been interrogated for hours as, by that time, he is a disturbed person."

The committee considered extensive testimony from Naval investigators who testified that they occasionally put "homosexual hangouts" under surveillance and also cooperated regularly with local police in "sweeps" of areas frequented by Gays.

Investigators said that "threats or use of force by interviewers is not tolerated" in soliciting confessions from those service members under investigation, but that suspected Gays were not told of the testimony against them so that the inquiries could be broadened.

Naval investigators also provided the committee with charts and tables it had created to show "homosexual rings" and contacts, but was unable to provide documentation that Gays were subject to blackmail or were security threats.

"Even the number of cases of blackmail revealed as a result of past investigations, which were cited to the Board, is negligible," the report stated in a section on security risks.

The report also found the charge that Gays are not good security risks "without sound basis in fact."

"It is difficult to determine just how this idea developed," the report stated. "There is some information to indicate that at least some homosexuals are quite good security risks. Some feel that certain homosexuals might be better security risks than heterosexuals."

"From all information available to the Committee, it would appear that the concept that homosexuals necessarily pose a security risk is unsupported by adequate factual data," the report stated.

The Crittendon Committee recommended that the policy of automatically discharging all "one-time" Gays be dropped, and that penalties for "confirmed" Gays be lessened. It also called for additional "statistical" studies on Gays in the military to determine whether the belief that Gays could not be good soldiers could be proved.

The committee also was provided with "scripts" to be used by commanding officers, psychiatrists, and chaplains to "indoctrinate" recruits about Gays and homosexuality. The scripts were developed on orders from the Secretary of the Navy in 1952, the report said.

The instructions called for Navy recruits to be told Gays were like "a person who would walk into a house and kill the occupants, for homosexuality is a killer, too."

"Homosexuality is wrong, evil, and an offense to all decent and law-abiding people, and is not to be condoned on grounds of 'mental illness' any more than other crime such as theft, homicide or criminal assault," the instruction stated.

"As many of you already know," the commanding officer script stated, "homosexual persons are frequently referred to as 'queers,' 'homos,' 'fairies,' 'panies,' and like terms."

Recruits were warned to stay away "from those places you suspect or which are known to be hangouts for homosexuals. Even by being frequently seen in such places, you could be caused considerable embarrassment by having your name placed on the local police list," the report said.

"Homosexuals know no boundaries," the commander was instructed to tell recruits. "You might run into them wherever you go. They may turn up in bars, on the street, in buses and streetcars, in parks and various places of entertainment, and even in your own barracks or aboard ship."

The chaplain's script called for recruits to be told that people who engage in a homosexual act "often become a drug addict, an alcoholic, a thief, or even a murderer or suicide."

The Crittendon Committee recommended that the indoctrination program be continued using the scripts, noting, "There is no information to demonstrate that any harm has been produced" by using the program.

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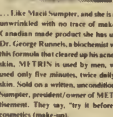
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## POLITICS AND POKER

### Hart Wins in Oregon, Nebraska Primaries



WAYNE FRIDAY

**G**ary Hart kept his presidential campaign on track this week with huge wins in both Oregon and his neighboring state of Nebraska.

Hart, favored in both contests, won both states with near identical pluralities — taking 59% of the vote compared to 27% for Walter Mondale; Jesse Jackson, running in two states with small Black populations, trailed with a poor 7% in Nebraska and won only 6% in Oregon.

After Tuesday's voting where Hart picked up 42 delegates (27 from Oregon and 15 from Nebraska), while Mondale added 24 from votes in both states, the Associated Press tally shows Mondale now leading in delegate count with 1,600 delegates compared to 977 for Hart, with 296 delegates listed in the Jackson column. A total of 1,967 delegates are needed to win the nomination in July. All three Democratic candidates turned their efforts, after Tuesday's primaries in the western states, to the all-important June 5 primaries in California and New Jersey, where a total of 465 delegates will be chosen. Reports from the Mondale camp say their candidate will concentrate his efforts on New Jersey, with its 122 delegates, as a hope of offsetting an expected loss in California next month. Gary Hart says that while he too expects to win the bulk of California's 345 delegates, he also expects to do well in New Jersey, South Dakota, New Mexico, and West Virginia, the other states holding primaries on June 5, the so-called next "Super Tuesday."

★ ★ ★

**W**hat goes around . . . Why all the fuss about the Russians pulling out of the Olympics? Didn't we start this political game-playing in 1980 when Jimmy Carter, protesting Russia's invasion of Afghanistan, withdrew our athletes from the Moscow games? The irony of this is that now Afghanistan, occupied by Russian forces, has joined the Russian boycott of the L.A. games as a slap at the U.S. government. Somehow, if we engage the boycott we are doing it in the name of "humanity," but when they respond in kind, the Russians are accused of playing "politics."

San Francisco's other state Senator, John Foran, gave the Lia Belli campaign a lift with his endorsement of the Democrat for Milton Marks' seat. • A number of groups here already planning on attending the big Hollywood Bowl concert in L.A. on June 29 to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion in New York, which was a landmark in the Gay rights movement. Sponsored by Christopher Street West/L.A., the concert will benefit the AIDS Project in L.A. as well as other Gay organizations.

The state convention in San Jose last week of the large Mexican-American Political Ass'n showed how flexible they can be when they want to be and how inflexible they can be when it doesn't serve their purpose. Realizing that their candidate (Mondale) could not possibly achieve the necessary 60% for endorsement, they initiated a rules change making a 40% vote qualify for endorsement (Mondale promptly received his necessary 46.3% vote, claimed a "win"). Then when Steve Diaz,

a San Francisco supporter of Ronald Reagan rose to speak to the "nonpartisan" MAPA convention, he was denied a chance to even speak and was shouted down and told "No habble!" (don't speak!). Former MAPA president Bert Corona pleaded with the delegates to at least allow Diaz to speak for Republican Reagan, but in true democratic fashion, the delegates voted overwhelmingly not to allow the Reagan supporter to speak, proving beyond anyone's doubt that MAPA has indeed become a Democratic Party caucus.

Police Chief Con Murphy getting near unanimous support (outside of his department, that is) in his handling of the Rathskeller police "hazing" party scandal. Plenty of red faces in the vice squad, as reports filed with the Police Commission show that Officers Peter Balesieri and Joseph Hession, vice cops themselves, were identified as the officers who allegedly hired the hooker to "star" at the police academy party (well, what the hell, if they are going to be neighbors with the hookers, they might as well be friends . . .).

L.A. Assemblyman Tom Hayden, who spent \$1.7 million

current 11 to 7 (Prop. 13). • Mayor Feinstein, Supervisors John Molinari, Dick Hongisto, and Carol Ruth Silver the latest to endorse Judge Al Wollenberg for re-election to the Municipal Court. • Don't know how many realize it, but the David Horowitz who is co-author of the new book on the Kennedy offspring, *Young Kennedys: Decline of an American Dynasty*, in which "revealing" interviews with the troubled late David Kennedy are supposedly revealed, is the same David Horowitz who caused all kinds of hell last year in San Francisco's Gay community with his now famous "Whitewash" story in *California* magazine. The political fallout still has not stopped over that story.

And just when we thought the political bickering between the Milk and Toklas clubs had hopes of ending, we find this week that the Toklas club is doing their best to keep it going. After Toklas' political action committee "recommended" (ha!) the election of Milk vice president Ron Huberman for re-election to the county Demo committee, the Toklas executive members (with the lone exception of Dennis Collins) send out a letter to its members over the weekend urging them not to vote for Huberman at Monday evening's endorsement meeting. A cheap shot, and I don't give a damn who calls me on this one. It says little about a club when they "recommend" someone's election and then try to engineer his defeat by sending out a letter to their membership urging them to disregard their own committee's "recommendation."



A gathering of some of the well-wishers at Bob Ross's 50th birthday dinner. (Photo: Vicki Lenz)

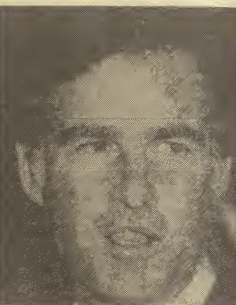
to win his first term, now running for re-election, says, "The spending last time was out of sight. Now that I'm in office, I don't think I'll have to spend anywhere near that again." • In Hanover, NH, the transcript of a Dartmouth Gay Student Ass'n meeting was not published as planned last week in the student-run *Dartmouth Review* after the association protested and school officials threatened disciplinary action. The May 6 meeting was secretly recorded by a *Review* reporter; the transcript has, however, been submitted to school officials. • And in Minneapolis, the Minnesota Supreme Court will decide tomorrow (Friday) whether or not Minneapolis District Court Judge Crane Winston, 57, known in that city for his fairness and intelligence, should be suspended as the result of his guilty plea on two misdemeanor charges of hiring males for sex. The state's high court will rule later on a state judicial panel's recommendation that Judge Winston be permanently dismissed. Winston has been a judge in Hennepin County District Court since 1967 and in a *Minneapolis Star* and *Tribune* poll (before his conviction) local lawyers rated him that area's top judge.

Channel 5 (KPIX) is the latest to editorially denounce the Guichard plan to reduce the Board of Supervisors from the

participation without reference to party. The Democrats feel — or hope, anyway — that loyal party members will get a good feeling about any corporation that gains the right to display the convention symbol.



Actor Ed Asner will be the featured guest at a \$100 per person cocktail party hosted by Tom Horn at his home on June 9 to benefit Supervisor Harry Britt's re-election campaign. • In L.A., Walter Mondale's state chairman, Mickey Kantor, and Gary Hart's state chairman,

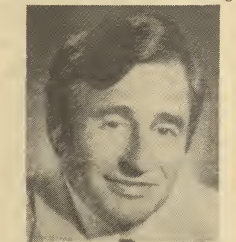


Gov. Brown sits out the Demo primary.

John Emerson, both share the same number and work in the same law office.

And this should be a scoop: Susan Gregory, the newest KGO-TV newscaster (she'll anchor the 5 o'clock news starting in July) is the ex-wife of former Rep. Barry Goldwater, Jr., and, although she's never been seen on the tube here, is popular as a newscaster in Sacramento.

Now that it is public knowledge that the city has a \$130 million surplus and is spending some of it sprucing up some of the downtown streets for the convention, I hope we can spend just a little more to repave Divisadero Street between Castro and Sacramento. The street is a goddam mess — full of potholes — and although it's a little out of the way of the major hotels and few delegates are likely to wander out that far, a lot of the merchants and residents along



Judge Wollenberg, everyone's choice.

Divis are waiting for the city to repair that street, and they have waited long enough.

So the Stonewall Democratic Club finally got around to endorsing Jesse Jackson — a joke!! — if Jackson had said about Gays what he said about the Jews, he wouldn't even dare show up in this city.

And as for the Concerned Republicans dinner last week — Duke Armstrong put on a good show as the dinner's organizer, but a standing ovation for Ed Davis? How soon they forget; it would never have happened in Los Angeles.

See you all at Harvey Milk's birthday party this Sunday on Castro Street, noon to 6 p.m. ■



# BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

*'Freedom of Choice'*

## Lesbian Motherhood at Sperm Bank

**Oakland Clinic Screens Donors,  
But Not Recipients**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the second article in a two-part look at a feminist-run sperm bank in Oakland, where many of the recipients are Lesbians and many of the donors are Gay men. In this week's article, the process of artificial insemination is examined.

by William Rodarmor

When a woman wants to be inseminated, she picks a donor from the sperm bank's "catalog." It is a sheet of paper which lists the bank's approved donors by height and weight, race, eye color, complexion, skin and hair type.

A woman might come in and say, "I want someone who is not too tall, not too short, and who has A-positive blood, like my husband." The sperm bank staff provides the client with a donor profile. The sealed records show the donor's employment background, whether he's been exposed to occupational hazards or radiation, and a lot more. Does he smoke a lot of marijuana? How many times has he had gonorrhea in the last five years? Was there any diabetes in his family? How long did his grandparents live?

"If the woman isn't satisfied," said Barbara Raboy, director of the sperm bank, "we'll go back to the catalog and say, 'Well, who else would you be interested in?' Sometimes it takes five minutes, sometimes two hours."

The bank currently has 23 approved donors, and expects to have a total of 50. They are mostly Caucasian, plus a Filipino, a Black, a Mexican-American, a Cuban, and two Chinese.

So far, the bank has been able to match all of the women's requests but one: It is still looking for an American Indian donor.

The actual insemination is easy. Frozen sperm thaws in about a half-hour at room temperature and is drawn up into a small needleless plastic syringe. "Some people have used turkey basters," said staff member Linda Radcliffe, "but we don't recommend it because of the danger of blowing air into the uterus — which can be fatal."

"Next, you open the vagina with a speculum and squirt the semen in just above the cervix. The woman should lie with her hips and legs up for about ten minutes. If she needs to get up and start walking immediately, she can put in a cervical cap or a diaphragm. Most people have been astounded at how easy it is. They haven't been able to get to the point of discussing it with their doctors. I guess it's a big taboo subject."

Insemination at the clinic is done under a doctor's supervision, said Raboy, but the atmosphere is anything but medical. "The rooms upstairs have cushions, pillows, and blankets. The setting is real warm and congenial. We can dim the lights, and people can bring candles, if they like."

Radcliffe added: "We tell the woman that your husband can do it, your friend or partner can do it, we'll explain how. You can bring friends and have a party. Just be sure to send us pictures for our album when the baby is born."

The bank also encourages women to inseminate at home. "Women can take the semen from us," said Raboy, "bring it home and inseminate in the evening, and just stay in bed for the rest of the night."

The insemination process costs between \$90 and \$500, on a sliding scale. This covers orientation, a fertility awareness class, a physical exam, help with choosing a donor, and the labor involved in the actual insemination. The semen itself costs an extra \$50 per sample. Pregnancy nearly always results by the fifth or sixth monthly attempt.

The bank screens its donors carefully, but does not screen the women who want to get pregnant. Said Radcliffe, "We believe in freedom of choice for people who are trying to create children. We don't set ourselves up as judges."

"Most of the people who come in here are wonderful, but would never qualify for an adoption process," said Radcliffe. "We have single women, of course, but also interracial couples, couples with a 20-year age difference, couples in their early forties."

"We even have one disabled couple who want insemination because the husband has an inheritable birth defect. When we met them, we asked, 'Are you physically able to take care of a child?' And they said, 'Together, we can do anything.' So we said, 'All right, and together you will.'" The couple takes having a child very seriously. "The man has been studying child care and development for four years," said Radcliffe, "and he knows more about it than anyone! The woman was so afraid we would turn her down, she brought letters from her doctors, all saying that having a baby would be a wonderful thing for her to do. They know what to expect. This isn't fly-by-night baby-making."

In the past, a single woman who wanted to get pregnant had to gamble on a one-night stand. "She'd go out to a bar," said Radcliffe, "find a man whose physical characteristics she liked, and jump all over him like a barracuda. God forbid he should have a congenital birth defect in his family."



Barbara Raboy and Her Son Reynal. Raboy is the director of the Oakland sperm bank. She conceived Reynal by artificial insemination, using a private donor. (Photo: W. Rodarmor)

Director Raboy herself briefly considered going that route. "I hadn't had a long-term relationship with a man in a number of years and didn't expect one in the near future. I have a few male friends, but I didn't want to have them involved in the parenting because we weren't going to have an intimate relationship." Through a friend, she found a willing donor and screened the man herself. "I

lucked out," she said. "I found a donor who cooperated, and was very excited about it all. It worked out fine."

Raboy plans to tell her son Reynal the truth about his father, when he's old enough to ask. "Not everybody does, but I will," she said. "And if he asks me why, I'll tell him because I'm a Lesbian, and I decided that was an honorable way to go about having a child. He'll have

the medical forms, and he'll have a photo of the donor. He can call him up and say, 'I want to meet my father.'"

In breaking taboos, the women who run the sperm bank are also taking a tentative step away from the tradition of complete anonymity in donor insemination, where neither donor nor recipient ever know who the other is. This has avoided legal

(Continued on page 17)

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DOOR PRIZES



# Fundraiser for Gay Congressman Raises \$1,800 in Berkeley

More than 100 supporters welcomed U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-MA) to the East Bay Saturday, May 6, at a fundraiser co-sponsored by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. The event was co-hosted by U.S. Rep. Ron Dellums (D-Berkeley/Oakland) and coordinated by Kerry Woodward, Finance Chair of the Lesbian/Gay Democratic club and Co-Chair of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. All proceeds from the event, which netted more than \$1,800, will go to the Committee to Re-elect Gerry Studds.

Studds, the only openly Gay

member of Congress, received a warm welcome from Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport, at whose home the event was held. Newport presented Studds with a proclamation from the city recognizing and honoring Studds' longtime advocacy of civil rights at home and abroad, his outspoken criticism of the military intervention of the United States in Central America, his concern for the protection of the seacoast environment, and his personal integrity and courage.

Newport, the only mayor to take part in the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration,

has announced his support for domestic partner benefits for Berkeley city employees.

Introducing Studds was Dellums, who welcomed his colleague to what he called a "nearly perfect community." Dellums praised Berkeleyans for being able to join together many diverse elements and make them work in a "real" democracy. He urged Studds to join him in a trip back to Berkeley whenever Washington got to be too much for him. Dellums praised Studds for "courage and commitment" and strongly criticized the Reagan administration's military adventurism around the world.

Studds also condemned the Reagan policies as those "of a bully who beats up on a little guy — out of his own insecurities — and then brags about it to everyone else." Studds said the United States should understand the historical forces at work in Central America, and should be sympathetic and supportive of national movements of liberation instead of trying to suppress



U.S. Rep. Ron Dellums of the East Bay welcomes Gay Rep. Gerry Studds at Berkeley fundraiser. (Photo: M.A. Brownstein)

them.

Studds said that Berkeley was in some ways similar to the

region he represents, the Cape Cod area of Massachusetts: "On a clear day you can see the United States."

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## OAKLAND

### A Veteran Empress

NEZ PAS

Stephen Alfred, known to most as Dowager Empress IV Stephanie, was born in San Francisco 35 years ago. He has lived most of his life in the Bay Area, except for a period of four or five years in Europe with his family. He is a veteran of Vietnam (13 months over there!), and was honorably discharged from the Army. His family knows he is Gay, even though his father thought that he would "grow out of it." It is neither a hinderance nor a help that they know; it just isn't discussed. When in drag, Stephanie has been told that she looks just like her mother!

Nez: When was your first time in drag?

Stephen: I was about 21 at the time, just back from 'nam. I was involved for over a year with Billy deFrank. We were very close friends. He was holding a function at the Lake Merritt Hotel, and we mutually agreed that I should make an appearance in drag. As a matter of fact, it was the first time that I ever went to a Gay Day Parade in drag!

Nez: What was your life like before Empress IV?

Stephen: It was peaceful and happier. I had only myself to answer to.

Nez: Why on earth run for Empress?

Stephen: I have always been involved with ACIE from its outset. There were things I wanted to see done, especially uniting north and south Alameda County. I got along with both segments. I wasn't considered being just from Oakland. I was considered a friend.

Nez: How was your life during your reign?

Stephen: Very complicated! I discovered that too many people wanted to do business at functions, rather than enjoy the functions. I preferred a one-to-one discussion so they could get to know me as a person, not a title holder. That's impossible, really, at functions. It certainly was a learning experience. I learned to deal with people. I realized that my life wasn't my own. I belonged to the community, and the community was highly critical.

Nez: What did you learn about "court life" you didn't know before?

Stephen: Well, baby, I found out who my FEW close friends are. I learned that there is a lot of politics. Most of my \$22,500 expenses came out of my own pocket. I learned that it is a lot more expensive than I thought. I learned about the psychological impact that you can't please everyone. No matter what I did, someone would find fault. I had to learn to do what I, myself,



Empress IV Stephanie

thought was right, regardless of what people thought.

Nez: Did you add anything new to ACIE that wasn't there before?

Stephen: Perhaps the most important thing that Frumpy and I tried was to establish that there was friendship and unity between ACIE and other courts, as well as within our own court. I think our strong attempt succeeded with certain individuals. They realized we weren't stuck on titles. We were people.

Nez: Would you consider running again?

Stephen: NO! I came a long way in that year. I did what my ambition was for the Bay community. I got a better understanding of who I was — more than I ever expected was demanded of me when I put on that Empress dress. I don't want any more demands. I want to settle down. I want a home life!

Nez: What's your life been since your reign?

Stephen: I have one year to

serve on the Board. I still go to functions and meet new people, and still represent ACIE. I'm more sensitive to feelings of others now. It's still go, go, go; put, the demand is someone else's now and I'm there for support. The Empress has to rely on herself and her inner feelings. She won't be able to please everyone. I know! That's why I'm there for support.

Nez: Have you changed your opinions about previous ACIE Emperresses?

Stephen: Gosh, yes! I realize now what they went through to accomplish things. I profited from their mistakes and how they handled their year. Basically, I think that because I ended my reign without owing anything or anybody, made me appreciate their responsibilities. I got to see their personal changes — inner and relationship wise — I certainly profited from that!

Nez: What ONE piece of advice would you give to a prospective Empress candidate?

Stephen: Guard their feelings and have plenty of money to back up what they want to do.

Nez: When your year on the council is over, will the drag be retired?

Stephen: I'll go to some functions in drag; but, believe me, I'll never go in the same dress twice!

Nez: In your year of reign, you must have respected and learned more from some than others. Care to comment?

Stephen: I can think of three very important people who I love very dearly: Tony Valentine, because he taught me how to succeed; Chuck M., because he taught me inner-strength and self-reliance; and Frumpy, because he taught me love for community and people.

Nez: Who is Stephen/Stephanie?

Stephen: One in the same. I am growing and still learning. I think I qualify as a leader. I don't feel that I'm a complicated person. When I look in the mirror I see ME, in or out of drag! I see a caring person. I am the same person on the throne or off. I am fun-loving and I have fears.

Nez: What do you fear?

Stephanie: I want to be accepted. I fear being rejected.

Nez: What do you want for your future?

Stephen: I want success. I want a home, a lover, and financial independence. I want to achieve my goals. I want to be the best Registered Nurse that I can be, and that means going back to school. I want to learn as much about nursing as I can. I am a Licensed Vocational Nurse

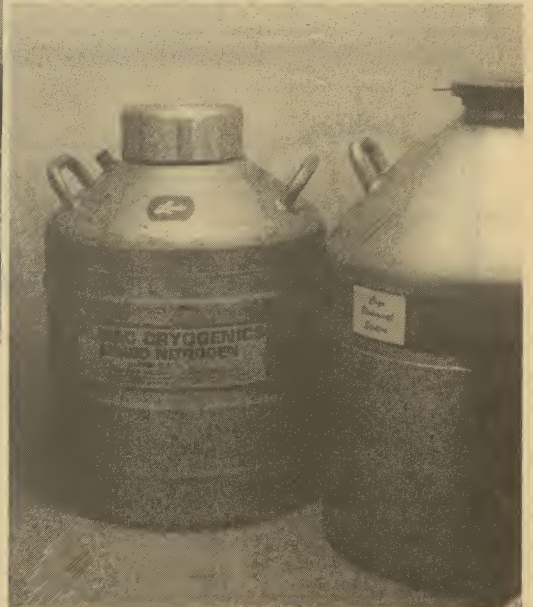
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Sperm Bank Insemination Room (photo on left). Bank administrator Lisa Radcliffe in one of the clinic's two insemination rooms. (Photo: William Rodarmor)

Frozen Sperm Storage. The steel tanks at the Oakland sperm bank keep sperm frozen at -394° F. (Photo: W. Rodarmor)



## OAKLAND SPERM BANK

(Continued from page 15)

complications such as custody suits by the donor, or paternity suits against him.

The Oakland bank still strongly recommends anonymity, and requires that the parties sign legal forms waiving paternity rights. (To avoid the possibility of incest between two children of the same donor, the bank keeps careful records.)

Nevertheless, if both donor and mother want a relationship, the bank will not stand in their way. "If a woman wants the donor to establish a relationship

with the child so that at age five, say, they can become friends, we'll do it," said Radcliffe. "We're not going to say, 'No, no, you can't ever see him.'"

"Before we started the program officially, a donor and one of the women agreed that the child would meet his father on his 10th birthday. The child is now 11, and for the last year they've gone camping and spent holidays together. The child has a really good attitude; he says, 'I've got a new friend. I call him Dad.'"

"We have a lot of single men

calling up and saying, 'I'm desperate to be a father; I can't get a baby. Is there anything you can do?' So we have a list of men who want to be co-parents: basically weekend and vacation fathers, who want to help in child-rearing."

Despite the Oakland bank's success, the future isn't entirely untroubled. Radcliffe expects sperm banking to be attacked heavily "by groups from the right who say we're 'taking away God's will,' or by legislation."

Some people object to the bank because it is run by women. "What we have, is a feminist organization that has a health center that does abortions and vasectomies, and is doing sperm banking and insemination at the same time," said Radcliffe. "We're controlling the whole ball of wax."

For many women, the bank represents a new step in freedom of choice. And it will have a special place in the lives of the children. Every baby who is born through artificial insemination has two birthdays, said Radcliffe, "a conception birthday, and a 'birthday' birthday. Their parents can actually tell them, 'I know the day you were conceived. We had a party, we

drank champagne, we had a great time. We went home and we inseminated, and you were made.' It can be a very warm thing, and done in a nice way."

W. Rodarmor  
William Rodarmor is a writer, radio reporter, and French book translator in Oakland.

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## NEZ PAS

(Continued from previous page)

graduate, and I want to build upon that achievement. I'd like to own my own business in fashion designing. Do you realize that I made most all my own dresses during my reign? I think most of all I want happiness with myself and with others.

Nez: Any final comments?

Stephen: In our community and in ACIE, we're young, we're opinionated, and we're still growing. We have something here to offer for ALL walks of life. I have made mistakes and I

will continue to make mistakes — but I will profit from them!

Gads! Talk about mistakes! When I met Stephen for this interview, I was one day early! Luckily he was there and granted me his precious time.

I can empathize with many of the inner-feelings that Stephen has. So many of us have the very same ones. But as for his not being accepted — I can't believe anyone would do that! I'm thankful that he accepted me for what and who I am — a friend!

Forgive me now. Tomorrow I may no longer feel guilty! Is that worth smiling about? You bet it is! Love,

Nez



I don't doubt that you're very qualified, however, there's no demand for professional shopping and dining, Patrick.



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# THIS

## THURSDAY 17

• **5th of July:** stage performance. Last night for this Lanford Wilson play about two Gay lovers, and those close to them, who try to overcome the past. A benefit show for the actors. At Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM. Call 861-5079 for ticket prices and reservations.

• **Copi One Acts:** stage performance. *The Homosexual*, or *The Difficulty of Expressing Oneself* and *The Four Twins*, two absurdist one-acts by the Argentinian playwright Copi, directed by Philippe Roy, at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6, call 861-5079 for reservations.

• **Scarlot Harlot:** multi-media comedy, one-woman performance based on the personal experience of a prostitute — the story of a woman who casts off her anonymity to demystify prostitution, at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. (near 18th), S.F., 8 PM, \$5 to \$10. Call 863-3863 for reservations.

• **Tom Ammann:** comedy, with Jane Dornacker, White Horse, Telegraph and 66th, Berkeley, 9 PM.

• **Old Women, Aging and Ageism:** seminar, featuring Barbara MacDonald and Cynthia Rich, who will read from their book *Look Me in the Eye*, 7:30 PM, Live Oak Senior Center Annex, 1777-A Capitola Rd., Santa Cruz. For information call 476-3309.

• **Prom Night:** live entertainment and dancing with formal attire encouraged, a benefit for the Shanti Project, B Street/Sassy's, 236 B Street, San Mateo, 9 PM, \$5 door, call 348-4045 for information.

• **It's the Feds!** Gay and Lesbian federal employees are organizing a group and will hold their first meeting at California Hall, Polk and Turk Sts., S.F., 7:30 PM, fifth floor. For info call 658-3334 or 626-7273.

• **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance, featuring *Superstitions* and *Sad Lament of Pecos Bill* on the Eve of Killing His Wife, Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, call 441-8822 for ticket prices.

• **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15 and \$18. Award-winning playwright Jane Chambers' play about Lesbian love and death.

• **Gwen Avery:** soul/R&B, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.

• **Frontrunners:** Fun Run, meet at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 6 PM, free.



Happy Birthday, Harvey. Tuesday would have been open here (left) with political columnist Wayne Friday (center) and Dan White assassinated Milk and Moscone at City Hall in 18th and Castro.

and Argentine singer Silvia Kohan, sponsored in part by Lesbians and Gays Against Intervention in Latin America, Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission St. (at 24th), S.F., 7:30 PM, \$5 to \$10. Call 821-4160 or 552-1492 for info.

• **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

• **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).

• **Lesbians Over 60:** support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 4:30 to 6 PM, free. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. For more information call Sheryl at 626-7000.

• **Jane Dornacker:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.

• **In the Niche of Time:** "Common Threads," three-woman theater troupe, uses mask, mime, and music to confront the fears and uncertainties of living today, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. (near 18th), S.F., 8 PM, \$4 to \$6. Reservations, 863-3863.

## SATURDAY 19

• **Kasino Night:** variety show including a buffet, "Vegas-style" show and games of chance, benefit for Black and White Men Together, at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. (near Guerrero), S.F., 6:30 PM, \$10 advance, \$15 door, call 563-2443 for information.

• **Copi One Acts:** stage performance, \$7 (see Thursday listing for details).

• **Gay Comedy Night:** Emcee Marga Gomez performs with Linda Moakes and Ruby Rubenstein, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. (near 18th), S.F., 10 PM, \$5.

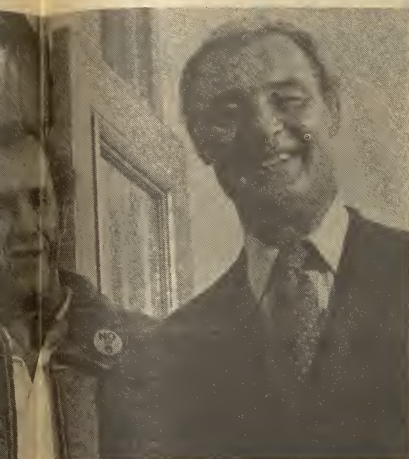
• **Extral Extral:** Get those extra editions of the newspapers out on the front porch this morning for recycling, a benefit for the Gay Men's Chorus. The men



Common Threads. Women's theater troupe uses mask, mime, and music to confront our fears and hopes in the nuclear age. Catch them at the Valencia Rose Friday and Saturday. (Photo: Erica Marcus)



# WEEK



openly Gay Supervisor Harvey Milk's birthday. Milk is shown center) and late Mayor George Moscone (right), three weeks before his death in November 1978. Observances are set for noon Sunday at the City Hall.

will be cruising the sidewalks but you can call 864-0326 to assure, uh, pickup. This drive commences a paper pickup every third Saturday of the month. As a kickoff, there will also be a garage sale at the Happy Boy lot, on the north side of Market near Sanchez, S.F., all day.

- **Margi Adam:** A farewell to the Bay Area from this singer-songwriter and pianist, featuring music from her new album *Here is a Love Song*, Great American Music Hall, S.F., 8 and 10:30 PM, \$8.50 at BASS, by phone, 893-BASS.
- **Fun Run:** Frontrunners, S.F. Gay and Lesbian running group, takes off from unpaved lot east of Golden Gate Bridge toll plaza, 10 AM.
- **Merle Woo Victory:** Celebration of Woo's successful job discrimination settlement with UC-Berkeley, 442 Shotwell St., S.F., 3 PM, \$3.
- **In the Niche of Time:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, 5 PM, \$15 and \$18, 9 PM, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).

## SUNDAY 20

- **Happy Birthday, Harvey:** A variety of commemorations to the late, openly Gay city supervisor, Harvey Milk, begins at noon at the corner of 18th and Castro.
- **Variety Show:** Benefit for Breakers, the women's fastpitch softball team, featuring Common Threads theater troupe, guitarist Peggy Lang, Robin Young Band, and Agents of Funk, Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **Pat Norman:** Neighborhood gathering to talk politics, Carson-York Deserts, Castro and 24th Sts., 8 to 10 PM, free coffee and cake.
- **Camp It Up:** Brian Evitch of Great Outdoors talks about his group with G40 Plus, Gays 40 years of age and over, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. (at Geary), S.F., 2 PM.
- **AIDS Forum:** radio broadcast, the medical and political aspects of AIDS, featuring Dan Turner; Marcus Conant, MD; and others, KSAN (95 FM), 6 AM.
- **Day Hike:** Mt. St. Helena, to the top and beyond, S.F. Hiking Club, Gay and Lesbian hikers, meet for carpooling at McDonald's at Stanyan and Haight, S.F., 9 AM, return to city mid-evening. Bring money for eating out in East Bay on return trip.
- **Healing Arts Fair:** Holistic therapy demonstrations, including rolfing, movement therapy, massage and energy balancing, Women's Building, 3543 18th St. (near Guerrero), S.F., 2 to 5 PM, \$3.
- **VD Clinic:** by and for Gay men, Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. For more information call 644-0425.
- **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, 3 and 7 PM, \$15 and \$18 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Kitty Margolis and Joyce Cooling:** jazz, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM, free.

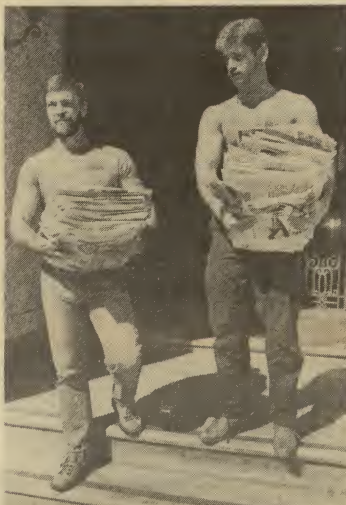
## MONDAY 21

- **Dogtown:** rock and roll, with The Freaky Executives, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$4.

- **Social Dance Classes:** Ollie's, 4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Learn the two-step, waltz, swing, and popular western dances. Drop in any Monday; classes taught by Fay Cuthbertson. For more information call 588-7113 or 731-2527.
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** with emcees Tom Ammiano and Danny Williams, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. Performers sign up at 7:30 PM.

## TUESDAY 22

- **Word Is Out:** Perhaps the most famous film about Gays, Lesbians, and the world they live in. The film presents 26 Gay men and Lesbians of various lifestyles, races, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds, who discuss their lives. A benefit for the Shanti Project, at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. (near 18th), S.F., 7:30 PM, \$5.
- **Bettina Sings:** at the Q.T., 1312 Polk St., 9:30 PM.
- **Cuentos, Stories by Latinas:** Review by guest speaker Irene Ornelas, Radical Women, 523-A Valencia St. (near 16th), S.F., dinner 6:45 PM, \$3, open meeting 7:30 PM.



San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus members Gary Garrison and John Brown collect newspapers for the chorus' monthly newspaper drive which begins Saturday, May 19. The collection point will be at the Happy Boy parking lot at Market and Sanchez. (Photo: Joe Altman)

- **Gay Men's Support Group:** South of Market, begins 1:30 PM and continues on Tuesdays, city's South of Market Mental Health Clinic, "to discuss coming out, family and friends, sexual roles, building AIDS-preventive lifestyle patterns," sliding-scale fees, call 777-3311, Frank Lostaunau.
- **Debbie Saunders:** rhythm and blues, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

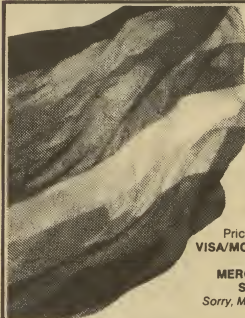
## WEDNESDAY 23

- **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, with Brent Holland, 132 Bush, S.F., 6 PM.
- **Word Is Out:** film, 7:30 PM (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **National March:** On the Democratic Convention for Lesbian and Gay Rights, general meeting, Women's Building, 3543 18th St. (near Guerrero), S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

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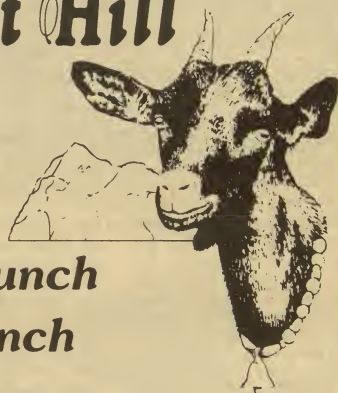
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# BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## TELEVISION

*Gays Speak for Themselves*

### 'Being Homosexual': Revealing Profiles

**TV Finally Gives Gays a Fair  
Shake Even If It Is Just Cable**

by Michael Lasky

[HBO - airs May 20 (11:45 p.m.), May 22 (10:30 p.m.), May 25 (4:45 a.m.), and May 31 (midnight).]

Never mind that HBO's presentation of its worthwhile documentary *Being Homosexual* appears in a series called "America Undercover." Forget the fact that it shares the series spotlight with other documentaries that cover hookers, growing up stoned, and owning guns.

Remember that the majority of the audience viewing this documentary produced by the New York company Filmworks, is straight and must be desensitized to what is a twitchy subject to them before they can absorb the evident truths.

That might explain why the beginning of *Being Homosexual* is such a misleading turn-off — a sleazy, sensationalized, expected pro/con dare: Baptist parishioners airing their stupid prejudices intercut with an outrageous drag queen.

But wait! What follows are five excellent interviews — five of the most compelling, intelligent, revealing, enlightening (for Gays and Straights) profiles of Gay men, Lesbians, and their families.

The HBO news release calls the programs "unflinching" and it probably is for the straights that will see it. Unflinching because it accomplishes simply what CBS with all its vast news department resources couldn't do. *Being Homosexual* for the first time on American television, albeit cable, seeks out the silent minority and lets them speak without out-of-context editing.

The Gays here are mostly from rural areas, proving that all homosexuals are not urban cruisers. All are content with themselves and their lifestyles. All are human beings first, Gays second.

**A look at Gays  
as flesh and blood  
people: no more,  
no less.**

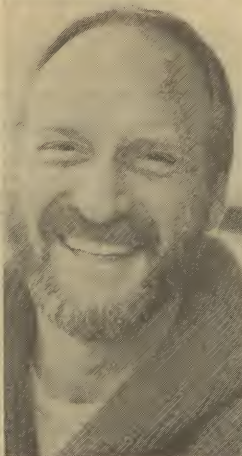
Says Ronnie: "I felt that I was different since my earliest memories. But I'm not that different. It's only who you love and how, but it is love. Otherwise, we are really no different than anyone else."

And there's Ronnie's mom explaining how she has kept her love for her son alive despite initial difficulty in coming to terms with his homosexuality.

Roy and Bill explain "The whole tendency of the society is to prevent us from forming a perfect union." Yet he and his lover, Bill, have been a pair for 34 years.

For 52-year-old Ed, a married

father for four, "coming out at age 48 has got to be one of the most devastating things." But his kids have been "very supportive" since he announced he was Gay to the family over Thanksgiving dinner. Ed lost a major job as "a direct result of the company knowing I was Gay." A major point of despair at the time, he sees now that being out of the closet was more important if he was to live happily.



Tom Waddell, featured in HBO documentary. (Photo: Rink)

The producers wisely do not interject themselves and allow the Gays to do all the talking, revealing both the turmoil and pleasure of being Gay in American society today.

Kenn, who lives on a remote farm by himself except for weekend visits from his city lover, says his lifestyle is still lonely, partially out of choice, partially from the limited choices Gays have. He met his lover in a teamroom years before — in small cities and towns sometimes they are the only places to find other Gays.

The object of the program is in its title, what is it like *Being Homosexual* in America today. The answers supplied and the way they have been captured are unerring in their universality. Except for the unpleasant but perhaps necessary cattleprod sensationalism at the start, HBO's *Being Homosexual* is that rare documentary on TV — a look at homosexuals as flesh and blood people: no more, no less.

## MUSIC



Playing It Straight is the Gay Marching Band, shown here in rendition of "Lincoln Portrait" with narrator Scott Beach foreground. (Photo: Rink)

**Marching Band Hits Its Stride**

### On Key, On Top at Herbst

**But the Complexity of 'Candide' is Beyond Them**

by Bernard Spunberg

Loyalty pays off. The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, led by Lesesne van Antwerp, gave a concert at Herbst Hall on May 12 which proved that dedicated, committed labor brings artistic results. Audiences, too, learned that a drop of generosity, a willingness to take a chance, opens the door to unexpected rewards. It's true: The Band hardly distinguished itself at the last Golden Gate Performing Arts Association Christmas concert. Last week's concert, however, proved the Band to be an ensemble of which our community can be proud.

Borodin's *Polovetsian Dances* highlighted the program. Van Antwerp and his ensemble dusted off this old chestnut with delicate phrasing and strong rhythmic pulse. The beautifully molded single- and double-reed solos, played by William Banovetz, Keith Sklower, and Jim Mock, lent additional luster to a performance of gripping drama and sharp characterization.

Wayne L. Love dedicated his performance of his *March Militaire No. 3: Excalibur* to Jon Sims, founder of the Band. Love's tribute was both worthy and apt, for his piece bubbles with melody and energy. Perfectly idiomatic for wind instruments, Love's *Excalibur* features contrapuntal passages that were played with clarity and tonal beauty. Another composition by Love would have been far preferable as an encore to the inane theme to *Dynasty*.

The Band played Berlioz' *Roman Carnival Overture* with greater freedom and security last spring than this year. This year, they threw themselves into a thrilling rendition of Joseph Willcox Jenkins' *American Overture* for Band. Not exactly a blazing masterpiece, the *Overture* is composed in a traditionally brassy style, and the Band played the piece for its worth. Big, loud, and exciting. Accurate, too.

Conductor van Antwerp proved his musicians capable of

The Band is more than an annual event. They have to be, or they couldn't play together at all.

quiet, transparent textures in Copland's *Lincoln Portrait*. Scott Beach delivered the narration with dignity, though his pre- and mid-concert patter went on too long.

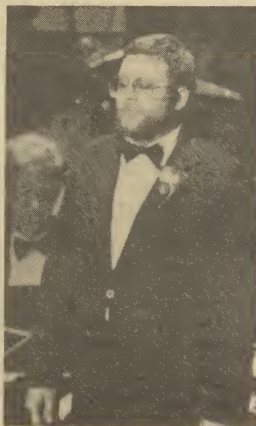
The opening pieces, especially Bernstein's *Overture to Candide*, were less fortunate. The Band is good, but the virtuosic complexity of the *Overture* is beyond them. At best, the performance was cautious; at worst, it was a mad scramble. Thankfully, conductor van Antwerp allowed for a shaky opening with a bit of trivial fluff, *Valdres*, by Johannes Hansen. The difficult solo trumpet passages were played with courage and creditable musicianship.

William Schuman's *Chester* found the Band thoroughly warmed up. Though their performance of Schuman's scherzo passages were a little careful, the chorale sections were noble, demonstrating that whatever the Band may lack in polish, they more than make up for with intelligence and musicality.

Thousands of people hear the Band every year as they march down Market Street on Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day. But the

Band is more than an annual event. They have to be, or they wouldn't be able to play together at all.

And that's the way a cultural heritage is created — through the application of talent, energy, and love over a long period of time. Come what may. ■



Writer, conductor Wayne Love. (Photo: Rink)



## STAGE

Out in Oregon

# Camp Revival: It's Shakespeare!

by Steve Warren

A weekend at the once super-straight Oregon Shakespearean Festival at Ashland left me with the question, what are they doing for heterosexuals this year? While I saw only four of the season's 11 plays, all four of them had strong Gay appeal. One expects a certain camp value in plays which Noel Coward (Hay Fever) and Tennessee Williams (Cat on a Hot Tin Roof) wrote from their closets, spewing wit and venom in every line. But what a surprise to find an obscure Shakespeare (Troilus and Cressida) parading Achilles and his male lover, while the uncle who brings the title characters together is played as an old auntie; and a more obscure Victorian comedy of manners (London Assurance) in which the main caricature is a flaming fop and a supporting character is named "Lady Gay Spanker!"

Ashland is in a lovely resort area in Gingerogers' neighborhood (The actress told the San Francisco International Film Festival audience she has a ranch on the Rogue River near Medford, Oregon). The city is a few miles north of the California border, about a 6½-hour drive from San Francisco. For a place so oriented toward tourists, prices are surprisingly reasonable, and the absence of a sales tax is like a 6½ percent discount on everything but lodging — there is a hotel tax.

Cook's Tavern, mixed until 10 p.m., is still the only Gay bar in Ashland; and it's not much. Perhaps one of these years I'll find out where most of the Gays in the festival company, or the Gay students at Southern Oregon State College, hang out.

Last year the Oregon Shakespearean won a Tony award for outstanding regional theater. The repertory season runs from February through October, including outdoor performances of three Shakespearean plays June 5 - September 29. Top ticket prices are only \$13.50 and most shows sell out well in advance.

The plays reviewed here run through the end of the season, except that Troilus and Cressida closes September 2 and Hay Fever will be on hiatus in July and August. For information and reservations write the festival at P.O. Box 158, Ashland, Oregon 97520; or phone (503) 482-4331.

★ ★ ★  
"I'm always suspicious of attractive people, on principle."

— Hay Fever

Noel Coward, whose own "eccentricity" dared not speak its name in his lifetime, delighted in writing about other eccentrics who thumbed their noses at the world and its conventions — and were usually wealthy enough to get away with it. "If people don't like it they can lump it" was his way of saying "Fuck 'em if they can't take a joke."

The Bliss brood in Hay Fever, based on actress Laurette Taylor and her household, fits the pattern. Like the Berry family of The Hotel New Hampshire, they are self-contained and self-absorbed, using outsiders only as props in their play.

Judith, marvelously played by Joan Hotchkis, is a "retired" actress planning to return to the stage because she hasn't received enough fan mail asking her to. Husband David, who is writing a book, doesn't interact much with the rest of the family. Brother Simon and sister Sorel are chips off their mother's block but aren't in the theater because the world's a stage.

ginia Woolf? without the hard edge.

The third act is anticlimactic after the hilarity of the second, and it's not easy — or necessary — for men to sound butch reciting Noel's dialogue; but everything about this production, directed by James Moll, is wonderful.

Let me quote just one more line. When Judith, ever the actress, learns that her young swain is a boxer, she coos, "I must come to your first night!"

★ ★ ★

"A woman impudent and mannish grown/Is not more loath'd than an effeminate man/In times of action . . ."

— Troilus and Cressida

Director Richard E. T. White takes a "The Road Warrior Meets La Cage aux Folles" approach to Troilus and Cressida as a way of making up for what's lacking in the script.

Set in the seventh year of the Greek siege of Troy, the play is largely a revisionist satire on legendary heroes. Shakespeare took his history from Homer's Iliad and his romance from Boccaccio via Chaucer.

(Continued on next page)



Not at the Brig: But at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, where brothers Hector (Robert Stolar) and Troilus (Todd Cohen) camp in Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida. (Photo: Hank Kranzler)

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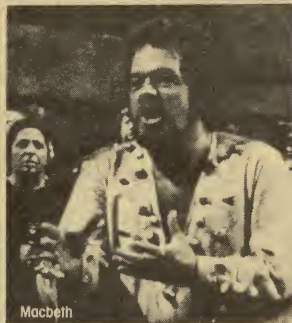
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# OREGON

(Continued from previous page)

Virginal Cressida is united with heroic Troilus by her Gay uncle Pandarus, who suggests, "If my lord get a boy of thee, you'll give him me." Pandarus is played by Wayne Ballantyne as a continuation of his screaming queen from last year's Dreamhouse."

Achilles (John David Castellanos) is a brunet clone of his Farrah Fawcett-haired lover Patroclus (Daniel Renner). The gentle giant Ajax is sensitively (given the context) played by Richard Denison in the manner of Lenny from Of Mice and Men. Joan Stuart-Morris camps through her one scene as Helen a la Mae West.

A Road Warrior look — even including "feral child" — is imposed on all this, linking the ancient past with our present and future.

Most of the gaiety and Gaiety are missing from the second act. Helen has vanished, presumably to accept a larger part in Tiger at the Gates; Pandarus is dying of diseases various and venereal and is no fun anymore; and Cressida, a prisoner in the Greek camp, has abandoned "safesex" and is doing it without Trojans. (Oh, hiss, yourself!)

Worst of all, Achilles has remembered that he's engaged to Queen Hecuba's daughter. This spurs Patroclus to sacrifice himself in battle, but not before urging his lover to fight: "They think . . . your great love to me, restrains you thus."

The ending, which drags in

the "Knight of the Mirrors" from Man of la Mancha, is about as confusing as Shakespeare wrote it. Fights begin and/or end offstage so we can't keep track of who's alive and dead, although we end up with a pretty good idea that Troy has been lost.

★ ★ ★

"I'm glad to see you, man. Give me your fist!"

— London Assurance

Written in 1841 by then 20-year-old Dion Boucault, who went on to turn out more than 120 other forgotten plays, London Assurance is lightweight but enjoyable. The playwright's own life would be more interesting. His first — wealthy — wife fell from an Alp during their honeymoon.

This may explain why the fop-pish — okay, nelly — Sir Harcourt Courtly (William McKereghan) is trying, in his sixties, to marry a 19-year-old heiress. He was wed once before — "I married for money and I got it" — and the child of that union becomes his romantic rival.

Marriage is held up to further ridicule by the Spankers: "She married him for freedom and she has it. He married her for protection and he has it."

Then there's the English gentleman's attitude toward women: "I wouldn't (compare her to a horse), but she is almost as fine a creature."

The acting is uniformly good and the costumes fun. There are three sets on the revolving stage, so none is up to the high standards of the single sets of the other plays reviewed.



Lady Who? Harcourt Courtly (William McKereghan) attempts to charm Lady Gay Spanker (Joan Hitchhiss) in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival production of Dion Boucault's London Assurance. (Photo: Hank Kranzler)

★ ★ ★

"Why can't exceptional friendship, real, real, deep, deep friendship! between two men be respected as something clean and decent without being thought of as — fairies . . ."

— Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Wayne Ballantyne butches it up as Bid Daddy in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof and gives what may be his finest performance. Of several characters who discuss homosexuality he's the only one who's not homophobic, having taken over his huge plantation at the death of the two old queens he used to work for. (Their sexuality may explain why the set, the bedroom they lived and died in, has a chandelier but no fan.)

The bedroom is a battlefield on Big Daddy's 65th and last birthday, when it has to be decided which of his two sons will inherit his land. Brick wants noncombatant status; but his wife Maggie, "determined to win," is in there fighting against Gooper and his wife Mae, who give "breeders" a bad name.

Brick has been an alcoholic since causing the death of his best friend by rejecting him when he learned he was Gay. He hasn't slept with Maggie since then, and she takes out her frustration by bitching nonstop through the first act. Joan Stuart-Morris starts off too abrasively, making it longer than it should for us to warm to her, but she's otherwise quite good.

Allen Nause defers Gooper's scenes to his wife, but JoAnn Johnson fumbles too many of their best laugh lines. Dee Maaske is a bit slender, but dignified and moving as Big Mama. John David Castellanos looks good as Brick, and injects as much strength as he can into a man who's basically passive.

Director Pat Patton has revised the script somewhat, eliminating servants, substituting "fuck" for various '50s euphemisms, and combining dialogue from both published versions of the third act to good advantage. He's made the production as physical as possible, keeping the audience alert, involved, and ready, the day I saw it, to leap to their feet enthusiastically at the final curtain.

Tennessee Williams may have left us a message for the age of AIDS in Big Mama's speech:

"Time goes by so fast. Nothin' can outrun it. Death commences too early — almost before you're half-acquainted with life — you meet the other. Oh, you know we just got to love each other, an' stay together all of us just as close as we can, specially now that such a black thing has come and moved into this place without invitation."

S. Warren

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## Lesbian, Gay Photo Exhibit

Clare Wren, co-chair of the 1982 and 1983 Frameline/Photo committees (sponsors of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay photography exhibitions) announced last week the formation of "Underexposed," a new non-profit organization created to promote the works of Lesbian and Gay photographers.

A photography display on billboards in the Muni Metro stations this summer is the first project sponsored by Underexposed. The billboard art promotes "... Closets . . ." the theme and title of the Third Annual Exhibition of Works by Gay

and Lesbian Photographers, to be presented this fall.

The men and women of Underexposed were motivated to put on the display by the special events which will take place in California this summer. "I wanted a way to bring Lesbian and Gay photography into the forefront during a time when Democratic conventioners, Olympic tourists, and visitors for Gay Pride Week will be in the City," Wren said. "We also want to generate interest in the fall exhibition by presenting provocative images in a novel setting."



## FROM FIFTH POSITION

### Spring Premieres: What Next?

KEITH WHITE

For those of us who saw every program, the San Francisco Ballet season was a long journey from January to May. Perhaps with that in mind, the company premiered five new ballets during the final three programs, all created by company choreographers. With nine working choreographers, the San Francisco Ballet has the largest roster of in-house chore-

Val Caniparoli's *Windows* actually shocked a number of people, though I felt that its three duets examine heterosexual lust in a manner quite tasteful and mild. In the first section, Vane Vest and Victoria Morgan undress each other little by little as their dance unfolds, but by the end, they're still wearing enough to appear on prime-time television.



*Signatures.* S.F. Ballet's clearest image of the season. (Photo: Marty Sohl)

ographers in America—or possibly anywhere. More than half of these are still dancing in the company, and two are women. With choreography the rarest of talents and the restlessness of the ballet public constantly requiring new works, the ballet would seem to be well-prepared for the future. But how well?

The first premiere celebrated the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Paris. An unexpected dedication, I had to look up the event in a book. But assistant director Robert Gladstein's new ballet, *Signatures*, gives the company its clearest image of the season.

Billy Goldenberg's sonorous commissioned score evokes early Americana without quoting folk tunes, while on a clean, well-lit stage, Gladstein's broad staging suggests the expansiveness of America. Robert Gladstein is often dismissed as predictable and derivative, yet for me, his fondness for geometric patterns and open positions makes for a masterful visual organization (enhanced in *Signatures* by the silhouettes of Bill Belew's red, white, and blue unitards). As a collaboration, *Signatures* is totally successful.

Vest and a second woman watch each other from afar, perhaps from windows of different buildings. The third duet is the most passionate, yet in the end the girl flies away, leaving the man alone and frustrated. The three duets were set to Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata"—an admirable attempt to use such a popular and difficult piece of music. Yet on the whole, *Windows* is a modest, small-scale piece, and succeeds as such.

From there, the premieres began to disintegrate. Not the worst of them was dancer Kirk Peterson's first choreography for San Francisco Ballet, *Cloudless Sulphur*, to a modern score by Morton Subotnick. The first scene showed a ghostly figure draped in gauzy white wind-blown fabric, a motionless zephyr ("spectre," the program advises). This image drew applause from the audience for its sheer visual impact, though it in no way related to the remainder of the work.

The most inspired part of the ballet was for the group of four girls and two boys—dressed in unitards and futuristic makeups—which immediately followed the opening scene. These open-

ing passages were stylishly modern and interesting, but my attention began to wander during a passionless duet (Evelyn Cisneros and Antonio Lopez) which formed the major portion of the ballet.

The final moments following the pas de deux felt palpably uninspired and repetitive, yet the ballet contained sufficient mood and style to excite a large portion of the audience.

Watching the new ballets of co-director Michael Smuin I wonder whether he is actually reflecting the public taste, or whether the public applauds his work like the emperor's new clothes, because he presents it with such fanfare. Smuin is the P.T. Barnum of dance, a showman who is reportedly unsurpassed as a director of Broadway musical comedy.

Most people were surprised when he announced a new ballet to the Mozart Piano Concerto No. 21, since his taste these days has been running to ever more transparent effects. Premiering on Program Six, Smuin's Mozart Piano Concerto No. 21 is a large-scale neoclassical ballet with many occasions of questionable staging and musicality.

But choreography is not the problem here; it surely looked better in the rehearsal studio than it does in the setting given it by designers Douglas Schmidt (decor) and Sandra Woodall (costumes). Schmidt is not familiar to me, and certainly not well-represented by the eclectic swank of his arches, colonnades, chandeliers, and columns with palm tree finials.

The validity of Sandra Woodall's reputation is seriously at stake with these costumes. The tutus are adorned with so much trimming that I had the urge to rush to the stage with scissors and see how much junk I could remove before the ushers carried me away. Necklaces and tiaras add insult to injury. The boys' costumes are better only because there is less of them, but even they didn't escape having a



*Cloudless Sulphur.* Interesting modernism, but passionless. (Photo: Marty Sohl)

metallic triangle applied to the backs of their tunics, like new-wave victims of the holocaust.

Mozart's production, so expensive and tacky, is mounted with such seriousness that it falls short of even being campy; perhaps next season will tell whether a ballet can ever emerge from the visual excess.

To the Beatles (*A Work in Progress*) is much more Smuin's forte, and certainly costlier to produce. It is also the most offensive, a pastiche of unrelated gimmicks that ignores both the meanings of the Beatles' songs and the era from which they emerged. Smuin uses anything he thinks will bring easy applause; the ballet is a sideshow.

Andre Reyes does a little break dancing; in "Day Tripper," Julian Montaner is the victim of four girls' revenge in a vignette that is more comedy than dance; later, Antonio Lopez rides a motorcycle around the stage in "All You Need is Love." To "Something," Tracy-Kai Meier and Vane Vest do a Vegas-style adagio, in which Maier is twice made to perform a backward split walkover (surely the ugliest adagio contortion ever invented). At the same time, a long line of corps girls stretch at a neon barre while Marco Carrabba performs an aimless solo dance around them.

To "Within You, Without You," Horacio Cifuentes was asked to belly dance, a technique he has mastered to an astonish-

(Continued on next page)

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## STAGE

Pulitzer Winner at Stanford

# 'Crimes' Do Pay in Off-Center Comedy

## It's Not Great, But What Do You Want From the 1980s?

by Steve Warren

The three sisters in *Crimes of the Heart* are having a bad day. Old Granddaddy is in the hospital near death. Lennie's horse was struck by lightning last night, and although today is her birthday, no one remembers it except cheap cousin Chick, who gives her year-old candy. Meg's singing career is on hold while she clerks for a dog food company. And now Babe has shot her husband Zackery over her affair with another man.

When their mama had a bad day once, she hanged herself. But these girls are survivors. Crisis brings them back together in their Hazelhurst, Mississippi, kitchen, where they talk over old times and new, giggling like teenagers at a pajama party. Meanwhile, Babe is reviewing her defense with a smitten young lawyer as if they were Mickey and Judy planning to put on a trial in the barn.

Beth Henley's appealing grey comedy won the 1981 Pulitzer Prize, which leads us to expect too much of it. Her characters are not bizarre Flannery O'Connor types, just slightly off-center. They do things we may never have seen actual people do — such as putting a phone in the refrigerator to keep someone from using it — but which come off as perfectly natural when they do them. None of them are quite lovable, but they're all too human to hate.

The performances of the sisters are all excellent in different respects. Annalee Jeffries gives Lennie marvelous physical quirks but is often difficult to hear in her calm moments or to understand when she gets excited. Wesley A. Pfenning makes Meg a bit more of a misfit than she needs to be, even if she has moved to California; but hers is also the most accessible charac-

ter, vocally and emotionally. Alexa Kenin's Babe is a wild child, innocent, mostly charming and completely unpredictable.

Gregory Grove imparts a Matthew Broderick quality to the young lawyer, making the world his courtroom. He may be the least credible character, but he also gets the most laughs. Gary Roberts is a bit too handsome for Doc Porter, whose coitus with Meg was interrupted

by Hurricane Camille; and Debbie Leigh Jones looks a good decade older than Chick is supposed to be (29); but both play their parts well.

The set, based on John Lee Beatty's original design, contains enough detail for three kitchens and looks good on the stage of Palo Alto's Stanford Theatre. The play itself would work better in a house half the size, and probably better still in the round.

We're not talking *great* theater here; but as the Pulitzer judges recognized, this is about as good as it's likely to get in the '80s.

*Crimes of the Heart* is part of an ambitious new program at the venerable old theater and is packaged with two other eagerly anticipated shows that have yet to be seen in the Bay Area — *A Coupla White Chicks Sitting Around Talking*, which will star Elizabeth Ashley, and the musical nostalgia piece *Taking My Turn*, which headlines Margaret Whiting. If San Francisco economics are going to make it too risky for such ventures to play *The City*, the Stanford looks like a workable alternative.

**Crimes of the Heart**  
Stanford Theatre, Palo Alto  
Through June 3; 323-4000



Sisterhood Forever. Annalee Jeffries (l.), Wesley A. Pfenning (c.) and Alexa Kenin review the family album in *Crimes of the Heart*.

## Pride Foundation Sets Art Exhibit

The Pride Foundation, in cooperation with San Francisco Arts and Athletics (sponsors of Gay Games II), announced its intent to participate in an indoor Satellite Exhibition site for the 38th Annual San Francisco Arts Festival, August 1-5, 1984.

Entries from Lesbian or Gay artists residing in the nine Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano, and Sonoma will be accepted for exhibition at the Pride Center, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco, from August 1 through August 25.

Any Gay or Lesbian artists interested in submitting their work for selection should send an application form, \$10 fee, and slides of work no later than June 1. A maximum of five pieces may be submitted for selection in the following disciplines: Painting/Graphics (including Printmaking and Drawing), Photography, Sculpture (including Textiles, Environmental Art, Installations and Mixed Media), Light Arts (including Film, Video, Holography, Computer Graphics).

Work will be selected by a jury of prominent artists and art critics and collectors to be established by the Pride Center

Arts Committee. The jury selection process for the three-week exhibit will be completed by June 15. All entrants will be notified no later than July 1.

The San Francisco Arts Festival is sponsored by the Arts Commission of San Francisco. The Satellite Exhibit at the Pride Center is the only site specifically designated to exhibit work from the Lesbian/Gay community. A certain number of pieces will be chosen to represent the Pride Center show at the major City exhibition being held in Polk and Larkin Halls of the Civic Auditorium.

The Pride Center exhibit is being coordinated by local photographer Tony Plewik and a small group of community members committed to the development and exhibition of art forms within the Gay community.

Application forms and information about joining the Pride Center Arts Committee are available from Tony Plewik, 52 Dolores Terrace, 94110; phone (415) 431-8840. Application forms are also available from the Pride Center, 890 Hayes Street, 94117 (Hayes at Fillmore), and from Frank Pietronigro, Co-Director, San Francisco Arts Festival, 45 Hyde Street, 3rd Floor, 94102.

## FIFTH POSITION

(Continued from previous page)

ing degree, yet the antics of his two female partners (Eda Holmes and Anita Paciotti), reduced it to the lowest of comedy. We saw tap dancing, too, but I won't go on listing the atrocities.

The most admirable quality in *To the Beatles* is the dancers' willingness to do what was asked of them; contemporary ballet dancers can do anything. But it is sad to witness the waste of the company's resources in a work that fails to show us anything new or special. *To the Beatles* represents a kind of megalomania that makes me think of adult men and electric trains.

The audience is occasionally amused, but I fear that Smuin promotes a decadent level of taste in his public by giving us, not necessarily what we want, but what he feels certain we will easily accept — in much the same way commercial television approaches its products.

Next year's ballet season is a dual tribute to Balanchine and Shakespeare. With two Shakespearean ballets by Smuin already in repertory, a number of the 1985 premieres will be by young choreographers. They hold the promise of the future.

K. White



# L'Homme Blesse

Hailing Wounds

Critical reaction to L'Homme Blesse (The Wounded Man) has been fiercely divided, some echoing the high praise I expressed last year and others denigrating the film with equal vehemence. Many Gays who have seen it in festivals, at the Castro and now the Lumiere, have complained that it is depressing and shows a negative aspect of our lifestyle.

There's no arguing either point, yet I pity anyone who avoided The Rose or Cries and Whispers for the former reason, or Taxi zum Klo and Fox and His Friends for the latter. You're left with a movie diet of Disney cartoons and the occasional Making Love.

Any political incorrectness of this particular film is more than offset by the fact that it brought its renowned director and co-writer Patrice Chereau out of the closet, providing another positive role model for young Gays and freeing Chereau to do other Gay-themed work if he chooses to.

Politics aside, a second viewing confirmed that L'Homme

Blesse is a film of consummate artistry. It's the story of a teenager drawn to the sleazy Gay netherworld of his local train station. Desired by one man and desiring another, he explores his confused feelings while becoming tangled in a web of eroticism that will end in death. That's not The Sound of Music, but the same territory has been explored in non-Gay films without a noticeable decline in population figures.

Although I don't pretend to understand the bizarre psychology at work here and I don't ordinarily apply the "peter meter" rule of movie reviewing, I'm not ashamed to admit that I was turned on by the raw, dangerous, often exhibitionistic sex in L'Homme Blesse. It's not hardcore, but if Jean-Hugues Anglade and Vittorio Mezzogiorno aren't Gay they're damned good actors. Either way Anglade, who has acted and more recently directed for Chereau's French theater company, makes an impressive screen debut.

What L'Homme Blesse says about us, if anything, is that Gay people are as complex and varied as any others. What we should say about it is that it's a proud achievement by a Gay artist that deserves a place among the classics.

(Lumiere)

S. Warren

# The Natural

Home Run

What I like about sports movies is all that unbridled macho masculinity and those obligatory locker room scenes. The Natural has enough of the first and almost none of the latter, but it still turned me on.

It's basically a retelling of "Casey at the Bat," a whimsical American fable which is also a few beats off from reality — that netherworld of factual fantasy made all the more theatrically magical by the film medium.

There are moments of the film which don't connect; some points in the story are not fully explained, and the 2½-hour length could be cut by 20 percent. Nevertheless, The Natural is a natural — a thoroughly enchanting, enjoyable experience.

Robert Redford doesn't have to act well, although he does, as the laconic mystery man who transforms a stinking baseball team into champs for a season. All Redford has to do is smile and we are his. He does, and we are.

Robert Duvall is as smooth as an oil slick in his role as a crass sportswriter enviously trying to destroy the natural goodness of Redford. Radiating natural warmth is Glenn Close as the girl he left behind. She discovers Redford years later to inspire him with the news that he left more than just her behind.

With the omnipresent Wilford Brimley as the curmudgeonly old coach and Richard (The Grey Fox) Farnsworth as Redford's team mentor, The Natural as directed by Barry (Diner) Levinson has a free and easy-going feel to it. It is a comfortable fable told at a laid-back pace.

There is a crusty Americana spirit created in the retelling of Bernard Malamud's 1950s novel. Redford is a Gary Cooper-type hero. His simple human goodness is his strength. The forces of money try to buy, then destroy him, when money proves worthless.

(Metro)

M. Lasky



Dart's Not Nice. That's what daddy Andy McGee (David Keith) says when his pyrotechnic little dumplin' gets jabbed in Firestarter. (Photo: Rink)

ation, so this Charlie has pyrokinetic power: when she gets "burned up," so does the object of her anger. Her father also has a gift, mental domination, which is like instant superhypnosis; but to use it he has to put his hands to his head and make a funny face. Then his nose bleeds.

A lot of bad men are after Charlie for various reasons; but all of them are connected with "The Shop — the U.S. Dept. of Scientific Intelligence — a kind of high-tech CIA. Charlie doesn't like to start fires, but when her back's against the wall, she can burn the wall down. The one-sidedness of the major confrontations reminded me of the movies where Bruce Lee would be surrounded by 50 men, and they wouldn't have a chance.

Director Mark L. Lester, whose prior career went from the Cockettes' film Tricia's Wedding through the

punk Class of 1984, wisely leaves out most of the intelligent thought from King's book and just goes to blazes whenever possible. Drew Barrymore is probably the perfect choice for the 8-year-old heroine — she does everything she's supposed to — but like Charlie's fires, a little of her can be useful but too much is lethal. She is everything kid-haters hate about kids.

Most of the all-semi-star cast — David Keith, George C. Scott, Freddie Jones, Martin Sheen, Art Carney, Louise Fletcher, etc. — just do what they have to do to earn their money; but Keith seems to get into the masochistic aspects of Charlie's suffering father, and Scott attacks his chief villain assignment with zest — he's a Native American with a lech for the little girl.

(Royal, Serramonte)

S. Warren

# One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzy

Wednesday, May 23: (Strand) Two films by Paolo Pasolini. His first film, Accatone, is about a young, thieving pimp in Roman slums. The Decameron is a plush film of bawdy Renaissance stories featuring Pasolini.

Wednesday-Thursday, May 23-24: (Cedar) Vivien Leigh in two stories by Tennessee Williams. The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone finds a middle-aged woman buying young men such as Warren Beatty. A Streetcar Named Desire finds a middle-aged woman whose Gay husband killed himself, tormented by a hunky Marlon Brando.

Thursday, May 24: (Strand) Men of the Midway and LA Tool and Die. An orgy of constant, if uninventive, hot action from Joe Gage.

# VIDEO

# On Broadway, On TV

You Can't Take It With You  
(SHOWTIME Cable;  
May 17, 23, 27, 28;  
June 2)

The classic comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman was revived on Broadway a year ago with much success. Captured on videotape before a live audience, the show, starring Jason Robards, Colleen Dewhurst, George Rose, and Elizabeth Wilson, is still fresh, exhilarating, and funny. The plot might seem cliché now, but quite the original at its inception in 1936. Jason Robards heads an eccentric family which has the nerve to proclaim, by its lifestyle, that if you can't live happily, then you're not really living at all.

One of the benefits of viewing a Broadway show on TV is that the camera can offer close-ups unavailable to the theater audience. One of the flaws of a TV production is that the camera lingers with closeups, never once letting us at home get the broad stage-wide perspective which makes for theater magic.

The result is that You Can't Take It With You has the look and feel of a pilot for a new sitcom, but the drive and intelligence of a fine ensemble of stage veterans performing a comedy that transcends any limitations of the small screen.

# Kris Gannon New Artistic Director of Theatre Rhino

Kris Gannon, Administrative Director of Theatre Rhinoceros, has been appointed Acting Artistic Director by the theater's Board of Directors. Ms. Gannon's appointment follows the death of Theatre Rhinoceros' Founder and Artistic Director, Allan B. Estes, Jr.

Ms. Gannon came to Theatre Rhinoceros as assistant director for Michelle Truffaut's production of My Blue Heaven in November of 1982. Previously she worked for Ms. Truffaut at the San Francisco Repertory Theatre.

In March of 1983 she assumed the Administrative Directorship, a post she will continue to hold while serving as Acting Artistic Director.

Rhinoceros theatergoers will remember Jane Chambers' A Late Snow which Ms. Gannon directed.

"Allan was an amazing and wonderful man who understood life and was wise enough to prepare us to carry on. Our monument to him will be our continuation of his life's work," says Ms. Gannon.

# Firestarter

A Girl 'n' Flames

Like the Iceman, the "firegirl" of Firestarter — also called "Charlie" — is special for reasons beyond her control, and is victimized by those who want to find out what makes her special.

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Where Else Can You Go Ape-Shit  
Crazy Over a Mouth-Watering Hunk?

by Charles Linebarger

On stage were five teenage boys in posing trunks. All five were tan, and had bodies that would put most grown men to shame. The first in the lineup was an Asian, shorter than a couple of the others, with more baby fat on him, especially in his thighs and buttocks (when he gave the audience a rear pose there was an awful lot of very shapely rear and thigh. He was my favorite — athlete). Also in the lineup was a taller youth, he looked Italian, with a fantastically proportioned and muscled body. He looked like the perfect man, except he was about 17, and next to him was a 17-year-old Black youth with more definition but still plenty of muscle.

This was the opening act at the AAU's Mr./Ms. Northern California Contest at California Hall on Polk Street, Saturday, April 28. I pity you if you missed it. I've never been much for sports — football, etc. — but competitive bodybuilding is special. It's one of our few opportunities in this life to see dreams become real.

Mike Dayton, the famous strongman, and the promoter of this show, had a full house for this one. About 45% of the audience was female. It looked like a straight audience, until you got up close and started recognizing faces. There were plenty of Gay men and women there, but it was a varied audience — families and friends of competitors, cheering sections from suburban gyms, young bodybuilders and their dates, hunky Gay couples, huge Gay couples on steroids, dainty, straight female couples, in lipstick and high heels, who

turn out to be Lesbian when you listen to them fight over their favorites in the women's division.

The show started 10-15 minutes late (bodybuilding shows always do — they run out of oil or something). The teenagers were first. The overall winner was the beautiful Italian kid with the perfect body, Tony Mantuzzi. My favorite came in last. He had all the size and shape you could hope for, but none of that heavy definition or vascularity crap — not that the others were marred by what they had. The gorgeous winner, with the perfect man's body, kept bowing to the audience from the waist. I think I love him.

Then came the best part, when all the young hunks waddled off the stage. All the muscles in their thighs, rears, backs and shoulders quivered under the lights. It was definitely a high point for me.

(Continued on page 31)

## G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED



He's Out! That's what the ump says as first baseman of Moby Dick's makes the catch to zilch Trax' Ira Kline in GSL play this past weekend. (Photo: Rink)

## Cafe Sn. Marcos and Rawhide Win Shockers!

Although each team went about it in a different fashion, the Cafe Sn. Marcos and Rawhide II scored shocking wins this past weekend.

"The Cafe" scored what must be considered an upset as they defeated Googie's, 8-5, for their first win in '84. An all-around team effort powered the "Marcos Mighties" to the win over a reeling Googie's squad. A voice in Chicago keeps haunting me with "bring on the Rookies!"

Rawhide II, down 12-4 in the bottom of the 7th inning, roared back with 9 runs to win their fifth straight game. A combination of Rawhide hits and Phone Booth errors carried the "Cowboys" to victory. How real is this 5-game winning streak of the Rawhide? We find out this Sunday as they take on the Kokpit.

Speaking of the Kokpit, they won a hard-fought 5-3 game with the Pilsner Inn, to keep a share of first place in the Golden Gate Division. Sharing that spot with them is the Village, who defeated a spunky Chaps crew 13-6. Rick Weil's key triple paced the Village to its sixth win.

The Pendulum downed the Rookies 25-3 behind the pitching of Arthur Jackson, and the Ambush kept their unblemished record intact by winning over the DeLuxe, 24-3.

The final game to recap saw John Larisa pitch his first shutout ever as the Moby Dick Whalers bounced back from their first loss by whitewashing Trax, 9-0.

Special thanks to Bob Docca and the GSL board for making the picnic after the game a huge success. We don't know how many people with AIDS were there, but as Docca stated, "If it was just one, it was worth it."

The GSL board would like to give a very special thank you to David Johnson, David Kramer, Pat Dryburgh (Cafe Steve's mother), and the fellow next to Pat who made the cream puffs.

Week #8 finds the GSL at Balboa Park, Ocean and San Jose Avenues:

10 a.m. - Rookies/Cafe Sn. Marcos

11:45 a.m. - Village/Vagabond and Chaps/Pendulum

1:30 p.m. - DeLuxe/Trax and Pilsner Inn/Ambush

3:15 p.m. - Rawhide/Kokpit and Googie's/Phone Booth

### STANDINGS

#### Cable Car Division

Ambush	7-0
Moby Dick	6-1
Pendulum	5-1
Rawhide	5-2
Chaps	2-4
Phone Booth	2-4
DeLuxe	1-7

#### Golden Gate Division

Village	6-1
Kokpit	6-1
Pilsner Inn	5-2
Vagabond	2-4
Cafe Sn. Marcos	1-5
Trax	1-6
Googie's	1-6
Rookies	0-7



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Take Her Out to the Ballgame. Mother's Day finds Steve Dryburgh and his mom at the GSL post-game picnic. (Photo: Rink)



## CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

### Arguello, Sprotti Winners

The San Francisco Pool Association held two of its biggest tournaments last weekend, and five players won trips to San Diego for West Coast Challenge IX, July 13-15.

The All-Star, a grueling 8-1/2 hour, 3-out-of-5 double elimination event at Park Bowl on Saturday, saw Carl Arguello capture his first league title, downing Peter Fleury 3-0 in the final match for an undefeated performance against the league's top players. In third was Gene Miller (the very same), and Colin Bradley was fourth. We'll represent the SFPA in the single's bracket in San Diego.

In the Class "A" (for players rated #17 and lower), held the following day at Febe's and the Arena, Lisa Duncan was on target, topping the winner's bracket with 4 straight 2-0 matches in the 2-out-of-3, double-elimination contest, and winning the first game in the championship match against Eddie Sprotti for a 9-game streak. But Eddie won the next two games to force the final match and finally defeated Lisa 2-1.

The stats: All-Star: 1st - Carl Arguello (15-5) \$65, 2nd - Peter Fleury (16-10) \$55, 3rd - Gene Miller (13-8) \$40, 4th - Colin Bradley (10-8) \$30. Class "A": 1st - Eddie Sprotti (12-7), 2nd - Lisa Duncan (10-4), 3rd - Cory Iwatsu (8-6), 4th - Rick Mariani (8-6).

#### TEAM ELIMINATIONS BEGIN

In first-round action as the SFPA's top teams vie for the team entry in the West Coast Challenge, Rainbow Cattle Co. defeated Maud's 9-1, the Stallion Steeds 9-6 over Peg's Promises (captain Pierre Aguilar shut the door with an 8-ball break against Kitty Stephens), Macante's MARTYRS 9-4 over the Arena Warriors, and Pendulum Chaos 9-4 over Pendulum Pirates.

#### GET THEM STRAIGHTS OUT OF HERE!

In my article, "The Fading Tournament Scene," (B.A.R. 9/8/83) the quote "all the money went to Straights" touched on a subject that's been quietly simmering since the league began. At the May 2 general membership meeting the issue gained momentum as Rick Mariani presented a 3-tiered proposal focusing upon ways to limit the number of Straight players in the league. Using the recent annual 8-ball championship as his example, he pointed out that "the entire top four were Straight players," and further, "it's very possible that our league will again be represented by an all-Straight team (Rainbow) at the upcoming West Coast Challenge."

The three suggestions in Mariani's paper:

- Engrave "A Gay League" on every trophy awarded by the league;
- Permit only one straight player on a team;

• Donate all tournament prize money directly to (for example) the Shanti project rather than award it to the winners.

Any one or all three points could be adopted, and will be on the agenda for the July 17 meeting.

Discussion, pro and con, continued for almost an hour. "The Straight players don't even come in the bars, they only come in on Tuesday (league night)," stated league President Dennis Hall, adding, "and none of our sponsors are straight bars." Vice President Mike Macri added, "They're only in this league to make the bucks..." Head Referee Lauren Ward asked, "Is it right to send an all-Straight team as our representative in a Gay pool event?" Newly-elected Secretary Ken Robertson certainly spoke for several members when he said, "I don't want to be discriminatory, but I joined the league to meet other Gay people, and a lot of people I've talked to feel there are too many Straight people in the league. They feel intimidated. That's eliminating the basic reason why I first started in the league."

On the other hand, responding to the claim that the Straights don't participate except to win money, Bryan Bailey asked, "How many Gay people participate?" Cris Lundberg firmly stated, "We can't make a minority of our players, who are Straight, second-class citizens." Treasurer Ray Peterson, regarding the "one Straight per team" option, asked, "How would you enforce that? You simply couldn't."

The SFPA is, today, perhaps a unique example of harmony among Gay and Straight people in a predominantly Gay sports organization. Should it change?

## COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

### Hunkies Lead

The Hot & Hunky team pulled out in front of the pack with two big wins. The first was over the tough Nap's Peacock, beating them in late innings by a score of 5-1. The other big victory was won over Everett's of San Francisco. It was the last game of the day and it looked like a sure victory for Everett's as they led the Hunkies 13-3 in the 7th inning. The Hunky men exploded with everyone hitting and they scored an unbelievable 10 runs against the Norm Smith squad. Hot & Hunky scored the extra run, defeating Everett's in the 8th inning 14-13.

The important hits were made by Calvin Lou, Russ Zipkin in the winning run. This had to be a sweet victory for Mark Gordon's group, as Everett's was the team that beat them for the 1983 Championship.

In other league play the scrappy Bunkhouse, after losing their first two games, came back and picked up two on the winning side. They first beat Rockin' Robin in a very tight game 4-3 and then got by The Force by a 6 to 2 zip win. The Bunkhouse is normally a big hitting team but so far have not been scoring the amount of runs they normally score.

The Cinch lost to their sister bar, Rainbow/Bats, in an evenly matched game. The Cinch beat them just last week. Carl McMurdo's club showed a lot of spirit and they finally started getting their hits. The Cinch

came back on their second game and defeated the Rockin' Robin 8-1. Rockin' Robin, our new team, is the only team not to have won a game. The season is young and this team has a lot of talent but needs to get rid of the jitters. They are an excellent defensive team but are still making costly mental errors.

Bobby Heinbaugh's Jack's Happy Daze lost two close ones last week and reversed it this week by winning two very close ones. They defeated Nap's Peacock 11-10 and squeaked by Slow Rush 11-8.

This week's games (May 20) are at Lang Field:

10:30 a.m. - Bunkhouse v. Everett's and Hot & Hunky v. The Force

12 p.m. - Slow Rush v. Bunkhouse and Rainbow/Bats v. Hot & Hunky

1:30 p.m. - Jack's v. Rainbow/Bats and Cinch v. Slow Rush

3 p.m. - Jack's vs. Rockin' Robin and Cinch v. Nap's

#### SCOREBOARD

Jack's	11	Slow Rush	8
Rainbow/Bats	9	Cinch	5
Cinch	8	Rockin' Robin	1
Jack's	11	Nap's	10
Bunkhouse	4	Rockin' Robin	3
Hot & Hunky	5	Nap's	1
Bunkhouse	6	Force	0
Hot & Hunky	14	Everett's	13

## SCOREBOARD

### JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES

#### TEAM STANDINGS AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

(The League Averages are unavailable)

#### SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE

(Week 23 of 24 - as of 5/6/84)

1. King & Her Queens	35	9
2. Battery Point	27	17
3. Fish and Dicks	23	21
4. Japantown Bombers	20	24
5. All Stars	13 1/2	30 1/2
6. Two Plus Two	13 1/2	30 1/2

#### MONDAY LEAGUE

(Week 26 of 28 - as of 4/30/84)

1. Play With It, Ltd.	41	7
2. Porky's (1st)	35	13
3. Vagabond Tramps	33	15
4. DeLuxe	29	19
5. Phoenix Phirebirds	29	19
6. Rick's Gold Room	28	20
7. Ramrod	27	21
8. P.J. and the Bears	26	22
9. 22nd St. Gang (4th)	26	22
10. Harlepins	26	22
11. Obelisk-Crystal Ball	24	24
12. Dynasty (3rd)	23	25
13. Village Sluts	23	25
14. Phoenix Phantoms	23	25
15. Gay Sports	23	25
16. Number 16 (2nd)	22	26
17. Knotters	21	27
18. The Raw Hides	20	28
19. Bad Boys	19	29
20. Sounds Incredible	18	30
21. Easy Pickups	16	32
22. Lucky Strikes	14	34
23. Fever	13	35
24. Rawhide Rawkettes	12	36

#### TUESDAY LEAGUE

Final Standings

(Week 34 of 34 - as of 5/1/84)

1. Ethel	46	22
2. Half & Half-C of C	46	22
3. EZY Pick-Ups (1st)	45	23
4. Doris Daze	40	28
5. Deadwood	40	28
6. Late Night Rollers	39 1/2	28 1/2
7. The Misfits	38 1/2	29 1/2
8. The Extremes	38	30
9. The 5 Pickups	38	30
10. Ruthless	33	35
11. Charlie's Angels	32	36
12. One Plus Four	29	39
13. R and P	29	39
14. Pinheads	24	44
15. Quick and Easy	24	44
16. Univ MD All-Stars	22	46

Lillian Johnson (Rless)	549
Jackie Weil (H & H)	524

#### FRIDAY LEAGUE

(Week 21 of 22 - as of 5/4/84)

1. Team 08	45 1/2	38 1/2
2. Team 02	44 1/2	39 1/2
3. Team 03	44	40
4. Where's the Beef	41 1/2	42 1/2
5. LC & LB's Bees	41	43
6. Phlant Lips	39 1/2	44 1/2
7. Team 01	38 1/2	41 1/2
8. Team 06	37 1/2	42 1/2

Results for the Wednesday and Thursday Night Leagues were not available for this issue of the Bay Area Reporter.

Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.

## G.T.F. TEAM TENNIS

LES BALMAIN

### Shake-up in Standings

Round 3 of team tennis for the GTF was completed this past weekend, May 12 and 13, with two teams making considerable changes in the standings; namely, Atlas Savings moving out of the cellar into 5th place with a big win over Gay Sports, 47-29; and Ivy's slipping from 3rd to 6th place in losing to Nella/Schmidt Insurance, 40-47. The Bear beat the White Swallow 48-37 and Roto Rooter defeated the Pilsner Inn 51-40. Community Rentals maintained their 2nd place standing, although they had a bye.

The standings as of May 13 are:

1. Nella/Schmidt Insurance	136-111	.551
2. Community Rentals	95- 79	.546
3. Roto Rooter	131-111	.541
4. The Bear	93- 81	.534
5. Atlas Savings	125-122	.506
6. Ivy's	79- 81	.494
7. White Swallow	115-136	.458
8. Pilsner Inn	112-136	.452
9. Gay Sports	97-146	.399

Round 4 is scheduled for play this coming weekend at the 15th Street & Lower Buena Vista Terrace Courts as follows: Saturday, May 19 - 9 a.m., Community Rentals vs. White Swallow; 11:30 a.m., Ivy's vs. Roto Rooter; Sunday, May 20 - 9 a.m., The Bear vs. Gay Sports; 11:30 a.m., Pilsner Inn vs. Atlas Savings. Nella/Schmidt Insurance draws a bye.

People interested in joining the Gay Tennis Federation may contact Ken Wells, Secretary, telephone 221-0458, or write: Gay Tennis Federation, 2215-R Market Street, Suite 109, San Francisco, CA 94114.

A benefit for the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee



The summer celebration continues! Hot Colors II at the Endup, Sixth and Harrison, San Francisco Thursday, May 24, 8pm-2am. \$3.

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*A Retreat in the Sexual Revolution*

## Saying Goodbye to the Baths

*Roar of the Saw is Deafening at the Liberty*

by Bernard Spunberg

I loved the baths. Between 1972 and 1982, I went about 250 times and had sex with maybe 500 men. From my first visit to the Corral Club in Los Angeles in '72, I knew I'd found an environment in which I could play as nowhere else. Gay bars never worked for me. A nice face, a decent build — and I might as well have been invisible. Even when I did talk with someone, he generally ran away faster than you could say "Virginia Woolf." At the baths I discovered my hidden talent for creative sexual expression. I no longer needed a butch hello. Most of my friends identify themselves as either tops or bottoms. I am a sideways. I am also an exhibitionist. I realized early that it's not the product that counts — it's the packaging.

As a teenager, I had the physique of an avocado: toothpick legs sticking out of a lard ass. I hated sports. Catch the ball? I couldn't see the ball. While I was never wild about athletics, I have always been crazy for athletes. Hot and sweaty runners, swimmers, gymnasts, baseball, basketball and tennis players — I love 'em all. But I always felt unworthy of them because I could not offer what I, myself, desired.

The gorgeous bods at Ritch Street and Eighth and Howard inspired me to build some muscles. Not that I did anything so drastic as stepping outdoors, but I did crack a window and begin a program of sit-ups, push-ups, pull-ups, and stretching. Discipline was easy. Every time I got discouraged or lazy, I just thought of my next trip to the baths. For years I never skipped a day. And though I was still re-

signed to eventual retirement to the Home for the Partially Bald, I did find a haircutting genius who could make much of little.

The streamlined Bernard was a hit at both Ritch Street and Eighth and Howard. At Ritch Street, I loved the gorgeously padded and tiled room with snack bar, aquarium, and the jacuzzi, which felt like hot champagne. Eighth and Howard reminded me of a holding pen for extras working on a gladiator movie. Though the pool did not fizz like the one at Ritch Street, chemicals and high temperatures prevented God knows how much disease. The steamroom would probably have been cut out of a Fellini movie, on account of implausibility. Never before had I seen so many handsome naked men sporting great, big, hard dicks. Sucking, fucking, rimming, j/o blended into one continuous sex act. To be there was to forget all thought and care, to have every cell awakened, every nerve ending eroticized. The steamroom had its hazards. I once lost a contact lens in someone's pubic hair.

There were times when certain policies made Eighth and Howard politically incorrect to patronize. For my taste, the music was too loud. Worst of all, there was a certain anti-erotic,



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

sex-resistant quality about the place. "I dare you to be sexy, you wimp," the sterile hallways seemed to say. Despite some problems, however, Eighth and Howard kept me happy from 1976 to '79, when I tried the Liberty Baths.

Ah, the Liberty! It's gone now. It closed April 15, a victim of skyrocketing rent and diminishing patronage. But during its prime, it was my haven, the scene of magical encounters. It was a showcase for my exhibitionism. At about a quarter the size of Ritch Street and a third the size of Eighth and Howard, the Liberty compared to them as a cabaret to a convention center and an opera house. Smaller, more intimate, and much more conducive to audience participation. Sheer size, however, did not make the difference. Neither did the wonderfully good-humored and helpful staff. Art made the difference.

The Liberty Baths was decorated with approximately 100 erotic paintings. They ranged in

size from 8 by 12 feet to 12 by 18 inches. They depicted a wide variety of sexual images, and their impact was thrilling; each of my visits to the Liberty was heightened by those paintings. Whether I was feeling energetic or a little tired, euphoric or just plain blah, the art works never failed to give me a little jolt of excitement.

David Ross, creator of the paintings, is from St. Louis. He has lived in the Bay Area since 1974. Now 35, Ross said that when the Liberty opened in 1977, the management invited local Gay artists to decorate the interior. Ross contributed some work. In 1979, he applied for a job at the Liberty, was hired, then mentioned he was one of the original artists. Then-manager Paul Gibson invited Ross to resume painting. For the next two years, Ross worked full-time decorating the Liberty. His paintings evoked a far from unanimous response.

"Some people were embar-

(Continued on next page)



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

### A Taste of Leather's New Hours/New Catalog

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(Continued from previous page)

rated. For some, it was fine to be there to fuck, but to see somebody else fucking in a painting was poor taste. But it worked both ways. A lot of people came to see me and asked for something pornographic. I guess they meant fist-fucking or something that I didn't paint. I basically wouldn't paint anything I wouldn't do. I don't think it would have been ethical. It wasn't a matter of judging somebody else's scene. If they wanted paintings of fisting, they could have gotten another artist. That would have been fine with me.

"A lot of the paintings began with somebody telling me of a specific experience or fantasy. I would use their ideas as the basis for a painting."

Though painted in a consistent personal style, Ross's work at the Liberty includes references to Michelangelo, Eakins, Monet — and even Magritte, in the form of a giant, well-filled but unoccupied jockstrap hanging in space. Primary among Ross's stylistic influences are Giorgio Morandi, Philip Guston, and especially Francis Bacon. In his paintings at the Liberty, Ross omitted the negativity sometimes found in Bacon's work and left in the powerful contrasts, dramatic distortions, and the potent eroticism.

A few of Ross's works suffer from corny astrological and psychedelic imagery. His best pieces, however, reflect a whimsical imagination, an erotic sensibility, and a positive attitude toward Gay sexuality. Ross has a keen sense of anatomy, but he

also has a gift for knowing when musculature is best hinted at rather than detailed. Ross may give a figure one superbly muscled shoulder, one barely sketched shoulder, and no hands at all. Such choices give Ross's paintings vitality and are proof of a thoughtful esthetic at work. Many of Ross's paintings at the Liberty also have a casual, unfinished quality, which kept the bathhouse from feeling like an art gallery.

Among Ross's more playful ideas was his mounting of two pages clipped from William S. Burroughs' *Wild Boys* on a bathroom wall. "I was reading *Wild Boys* while I was doing the artwork. I don't think Gay people have really picked up on Burroughs the way they should. I wanted people to see a bit of the book where they couldn't miss it, read it, think about it, and maybe read the whole book. Burroughs writes his books, cuts them up, and then repastes them. I thought I'd take one of his books, cut it up, and repaste it myself."

I generally got to the Liberty at 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. I learned quickly that I vastly preferred those few rooms with the bed parallel rather than perpendicular to the door; the sightlines worked so much better with my staging. The man at the door was glad to let me have one of my favorites. Once downstairs, my tubes were immediately primed by a glimpse of David Ross's rendition of a cowboy and a construction worker playing with each other's big, fat cocks. I then proceeded to my room and experienced a mental process that initially startled, but ultimately

soothed me.

It was psychic housecleaning. The moment I shut the door, all the elements of my life passed through my mind, were rearranged according to their true priorities, and then set aside. The process was involuntary. I could neither start it nor interrupt it before it was complete. It took 20 minutes and left me feeling cleansed.

With my imagination aired out, I prepared for my show. After much experimentation with different styles of jockstraps and T-shirts, I concluded that I could best achieve a jock image — my ultimate favorite! — with a simple Bike jockstrap (wide elastic band around the waist), sweat socks, and track shoes. No fancy colors. And no "limpons." While my show was in progress, no one ever saw me with less than a roaring hardon. I was guided in all my choices by the principle of offering what I liked most in other men. I tried to present an image which, if I saw it, would have compelled me to touch.

Verbal descriptions seldom do justice to visual phenomenon. Let's just say I found new ways of wearing a jockstrap. Far more interesting than what I did were other people's reactions.

I was noticed, and for an exhibitionist, being noticed is the main thing. Lots of people did double-takes. Others gawked. These were the tourists who returned to Omaha and told their friends all about the guy who did the strange things with his jockstrap. A few men pretended not to notice me. These were the shy ones.

Among those who were not shy was the lovely young man who handed me the following message.

"Sir: Excuse my forwardness, but I won't know unless I ask. Do you have anything against balling with a bathhouse employee? If not, I'd love to take



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

care of you as soon as I am caught up! Satisfaction Guaranteed!!! My name is Jack. Please make your reply as soon as you can. I will be in and out of the laundry room until midnight. Hope we can get together! Jack"

My most intense experience was wholly unexpected. I'd spent Sunday bending over a hot computer and felt noncommittal about going to the baths. Still, I knew I needed my psychic housecleaning. I dragged myself over to the Liberty. I was wandering around listlessly when — "There you are!"

A broad-shouldered, slim-

hipped, blond, blue-eyed, 22-year-old Hunkus Americanus stood before me. He had glimpsed me in another area altogether, lost sight of me, and then tracked me down. Could I deal with this much happiness? I could. In fact, I dealt with it for a week, which was the length of time before clashes of personality, intellect, and values drove us apart.

My life is richer for my experiences at the baths. I have enjoyed blissful freedom from sexual frustration. My straight friends have envied — and resented — my attendance at one of the greatest ongoing sex par-

(Continued on next page)

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## BLACK LASHES

### Imperial Intersection

KARL STEWART

The official Imperial birthday was Friday, but Empress Remy Martin is so loved in the provinces, that parties were the subject of skirmishes.

The Imperial itinerary began with a tasty cocktail at the Kokpit. Black Beauty provided the eats, and the royal babies (DG, K&QoH & M/M Gay) were falling all over one another to be the first to congratulate her majesty (Maj for short). Hokum and Jack gave us a background of southern style music with their tuba/banjo duo. Interesting watching the parade of ambassadors. Empress IV Willis and two-time Closet Ball (creator) winner Nina sat side by side, (symbols of the old school and the new). Mr. Cramer and his main man Peter Cyr wished the good queen well. Bob C is still peddling \$25 and \$100 tickets for the big La Cage aux Folles benefit at the end of this month.

Saturday, the Johnson Sister's picnic dominated the day with an insane bus trip to Chris and Jay's cowboy haven, Molly Brown's. The Johnson sisters are the Men's Room's answer to the Rolley Hills cheerleading team. It brings out the drag queen in the strangest folks (!!!). Of course no country picnic would be complete without a crowning. Paulette became a dowager Miss Johnson to Billy Jean Queen (Rocky Rockwood). From Man

of the Year to woman of the day isn't such a long trip after all. Bathing beauty Michael Gill contributed his talent by sparking a spontaneous production of "Hello Dolly." In the egg toss Camron and Polly Dyke won big and John and Ed lost (messy). Of course her majesty's newest step-sister, Elma Jean and Kellie joined the fun on their first official out-of-town "walk." The Johnsons won the award for the most well organized/punctual one-day run. Dorothy, Gene, Chuck E and cast-bravo.

Her majesty was the guest of honor at a very pretty King and Queen of Hearts Investiture. Kris and Jim's designer set was only matched by their grace and charm. They will make welcome additions to San Francisco's set of royal families. Of course the reason they're welcome is that they have earned their way into court. I believe that folks who take a seat at court must behave accordingly, lest they never become welcome again (!!!!!). I think Crystal would second that sentiment. Remy, however, knew exactly how to behave when a hulky little cop arrested her, handcuffed her to a chair, and proceeded to strip down to a very small G-string with a very big birthday present in it. Altogether the show was fair. Tommi Rose in the company of KC and Jose gave us a taste of what producer

Kent Payne has in store at the New Nob Hill showroom. Together with Margo Scott, he's offering Tommi, Sandy Sorrelles Dayna, Kitty and Sharon Jackson with Sister Woman as the featured white trash. Tickets for the grand opening tomorrow night (Friday, May 18) are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

The next stop on this magical tour imperiale was the Mint and the Men's Room, and it is about this time that the fog rolled in for the evening (so to speak).

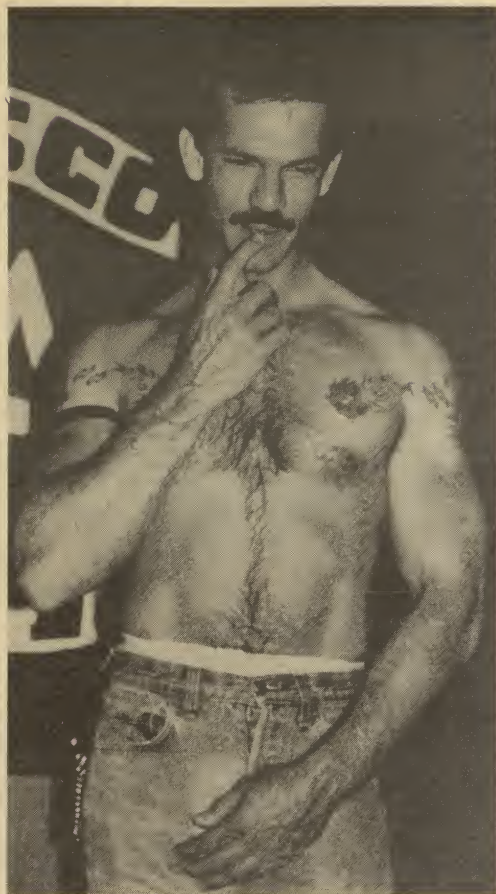
But the tour continued the next day with the Constantine's 12 Incher. This was a sort of poker-scavenger hunt which took the gang all over the city, into neighborhoods that Lashes has never explored before. This evening (Thursday) at the Forum meeting (8:30 p.m., Chez Mollet) the Cal Eagles MC will present the Constantines with the first annual Fickle Fist of Fate Award for the most informative instructions... their typos alone qualified them for this one, (look who's talking). The dedication award goes to Bill Redman who was too shy to ask for a ride on the 27 mile trek so he completed his course in 2 cabs and a bus. He had to stop at the Versateller once, accompany one back to the barn, and it cost him \$45 bucks. Next time, Bill, Camron, and I will share a limo with you at \$100 and we'll have a real party.

The final and official Remy Luau was presented by Kimo in his meticulous manner. Mama Billy did the food, ACIE's Hawaiian tribute to our Empress and Desiree's beautiful polynesian dance all made the Sunday evening feast the perfect end to a marathon Birthday for a hard working lady.

#### LASHES LINEUP

We now have a cast of four gentlemen representing So/M bars to the International Mr. Leather Contest at the end of the month. Two weeks ago Jake Banks, with his tall studied sleaziness, topped the Brig's list. Last Tuesday a quick, tight Glenn Terrio moved to the front of the class before a panel of ruthless judges (David Stoll, Skip Barret, Butch Freeman and CMC's Gary Noss). Leading the herd from Chaps is huge Australian powerlifter Peter Todd, with an attitude nearly as large. It's quite the opposite with the Arena's Michael Merriot. He's tan and well built and charming.

At the Arena, Dirty Dan and the gang found Mike Hatcher to their liking as Mr. June in the Bare Chest Contest last Thursday. He will join Michael and 5 others in the pages of Arena's 1985 calendar.



The Thinker. Being a bare-chested calendar guy is tougher than you might think as Dan, bartender from the Q.T., learned. He was second runner-up in the Arena's May contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Another couple of contests this weekend: Chaps softball team is inviting all to attend the 1st Mister GSL Leather Contest, Sunday, May 20, at 7 p.m. at Chaps. Each of the GSL teams will enter a hunk to compete and organizer Carl Heimann is featuring funnyperson (PC) Danny Williams.

Up at the River, The Woods (and everyone else) is sponsoring the Russian River Contest all week. Check the calendar for times and places. The featured entertainer Saturday evening is Voila Wills and Sunday, Falcon Dance Troupe. The winner will carry \$500. away with him & more.

Sunday also Kym of the Chaps is holding a reception for a fellow Australian Terry Oliver, Mr. Leather of that country, on his way to the Windy City. The toasts begin at 6 p.m.

The San Francisco Jacks are setting the tone for Gay sex in the '80's; this JO club have chosen the 1808 (our first no-touch-sex palace) as home and will feature parties for their membership in that establishment. You'll find a classified add in this paper with address for membership info.


In MC news the CMC and SFGDI's will package "A Box Lunch Social" which is a one day in-town run. Cost is a fin, and it kicks off at the Pilsner at 10 a.m. with Olin on the boards. Paulette, a dowager twice in two weeks, will be giving up the Miss Box Lunch crown.

The SFGDI's are also madly rehearsing for their 10th annual run and show, June 15, 16 & 17. "Speakeasy" is an appropriate theme. \$60 covers all the booze you can drink, some good grub, and shinanigans for 3 days.

(Continued on next page)



Butter? Parkay! Something slippery anyway — that's Parkay, who hopes to slide in as Miss Gay S.F. this year. (Photo: Rink)



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## Saying Goodbye to the Baths

(Continued from previous page)

ties in history. I have learned to take responsibility for the quality of my experience, for nowhere has my manifestation been mirrored so quickly, so accurately, so consistently, as at the baths. I long ago discovered the extent of my adaptability when I instantly absorbed the subtle protocol of a unique environment.

I have helped reinvent and amplify the notion of human play by bringing childlike innocence and purity of spirit to activity traditionally associated with decadence and degradation. I have brought heretofore hidden, unspoken aspects of life into the bright light of everyday conversation. I have found the power to generate my own identity. If I can be a jock to my satisfaction — there is no higher standard — I can be just about anything. I am worthy at last.

The baths were wonderful, but I don't think I'll be back for a while. No, it's not because of AIDS. I can have safe sex at the baths just as easily as anywhere else. I think I'll stay away because, though I enjoyed countless beautiful experiences at the baths, I never made a friend. I cultivated costume, not communication. I am adept at sex with strangers, but I'm still completely inexperienced at sex with friends. I have learned all the baths have to teach me. AIDS or no AIDS, it's time for me to move on.

Impartial steel slices through the Liberty Baths today. I hear the roar of the saw — it's deafening. The rooms where I connected with magnificent men will soon be stacks of lumber. I'm sad. Where can I let my imagination run so wild? Where can I make the fantastic real?

Where can I pretend I've left Planet Earth for — what? The Isle of Lost Boys? Never-Never Land? Those are the subtle put-downs of homophobic shrinks envious and fearful of my special wisdom. The noise of the saw compresses my emotions into a little ball. Time to pick up and leave. I give my room a quick once-over for a forgotten comb, a jockstrap flung into a corner. Back on the street, daylight blinds me temporarily. ■

B. Spunberg

David Ross's paintings and other memorabilia from the Liberty Baths will be on sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 19 to 25. On May 26 and 27, the sale will continue from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., to be followed by auctions on both days. Remaining objects will be for sale May 28 and 29. All sales will be at the Liberty Baths, 1157 Post Street, San Francisco.



## MUSCLE GUYS

(Continued from page 26)

The men over 40 came next. These guys had great bodies, but there were no dazzlers, and I've seen dazzlers in over-40 lineups before. Mike Dayton, the promoter, came on stage and did some strongman stunts. He wore a SF Yellow Pages in half, lifted two women by his little fingers, and while swinging with his neck in a noose and his hands tied behind his back, freed himself before he choked to death (Dayton is nationally famous for this trick).

The women were divided into three divisions. The female competitors are more like the popular ideal of a good-looking woman than the competitors of a few years ago. I'm not objective about this because I'm not into definition, vascularity or the

thin skin look that has been dominant in bodybuilding since the beginning of the '70s. Several of the women had really ample bosoms, and I think these women used to stay away from bodybuilding, probably because they didn't think they needed it. But they're into it now. This is when I noticed all the Lesbians in the audience — this was their part of the show, and they loved it.

Henrietta Averson, who had a soft golden body that could be curvy or defined at whim, won Ms Northern California. About a quarter of the audience — mostly women — then split. The rest of the audience — mostly men — began moving closer to the stage.

This was the grand finale — the big guys in their prime, the Mr. Northern California lineup. Eyes bulged and necks lengthened as about 10 gorgeous hunks spilled out onto the stage, all squeezed into tiny, little posing

trunks (straps). They were all big by anybody's standards, but 9 of them were dwarfed by one huge, smooth blonde with gargantuan proportions. He took up enough space for two of the others.

Right away, we knew who was going to win this one. And gargantua, Steve Bohnstedt, did win. He wasn't my favorite, but by any objective measure he was the biggest and he deserved the big trophy.

I love bodybuilding shows. Where else can you go ape-shit over some mouth-watering hunk in a tiny posing strap, and just blend in with the rest of the audience?

C. Linebarger

## LASHES

(Continued from previous page)

### RIGHT HAND RULE

It's significant that so many of our devoted leaders, both socially and politically are members of CRIR. Both Empress Rick and Her Majesty Remy are members as is Empress XIII Char, now running for the Central Committee of the Republican Party. Constantines' Prez Al Martino is CRIR's Treasurer and hot leatherman Bob Little is a member as well. Our own Duke Armstrong brought these and 160 or more, together for the 7th anniversary dinner at the sumptuous Gift Center last week. Max's food was not only served hot, but was perhaps the best banquet food Lashes has ever eaten.

See you in the skins!

K. Stewart

## Quotables

by Woolly

"Do you think that Gay men have traditionally been the trendsetters?"

"Yes, but I think that will turn out to be less and less true. That's the down side of Gay Liberation: letting in the masses . . . Style of all kinds is always greater under fascism. But it is not innate. It's caused by repression. When you have less repression, you have less style."

Fran Lebowitz  
"G.Q. Magazine"

Well, there goes Halloween. Maybe we could do something safe and sane for Groundhog Day instead.

— Woolly

## SWEET LIPS SEZ . . .

### All the Way, Jose

DICK WALTERS

Come out and support our own Community Band . . . Grand Ma Mere Jose 1 is presenting an entertainment extravaganza unlike anything you have ever seen before (if that is possible after all of these years with Jose), called Hit the Road . . . this is a benefit for the San Francisco Band Foundation's trip to the Hollywood Bowl Gay Band Festival. It will be held at the Rathskeller, 600 Turk Street (at polk) on Saturday, May 19, 8 p.m. Donations are only \$3.00 with a raffle so don't

miss out on this spectacular by Jose.

Benjamin talked Kora into coming out of retirement (drag again) for the opening performance of La Cage aux Folles on Tuesday, May 29. This should be a spectacular event for San Francisco so don't miss it as a few tickets are still available at the Gramophone Shop on Castro Street.

Googie's will be having a Pre Theatre Party for La Cage aux Folles on Tuesday, May 29 from 6 p.m. 'till 7:20 with canapes

and entertainment by Bill Ward, who will be playing the tunes from the show. At 7:20 there will be transportation to the theatre where the Gay Marching Band will be performing outside . . . Golden Gate and Taylor will be closed to all traffic except for those holding tickets to the play that evening so get there early and enjoy, enjoy.

That great and talented Mr. Bob Saunders is on the keyboard on Monday and Tuesday evenings at the popular New Bell Saloon so don't miss him . . . understand that Boo, Roy and Teddy are building a new piano bar just for this man . . . hi Mark.

Dick Rubin (Polo's) John (Rick's Gold Room) and Totie and Russ had a lovely Mother's Day Brunch last Sunday.

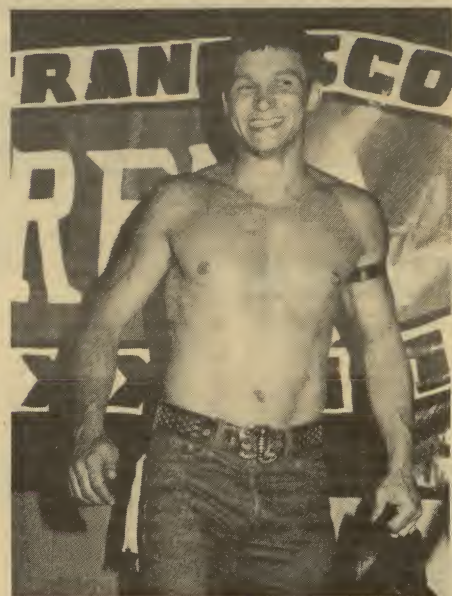
Remember that the National Reno Gay Rodeo and Country Fair is from Thursday, July 19 through the 22nd, so make your plans accordingly, as this is one event that you shouldn't miss. Lots of fun and some really hunky people.

Exclusive: Dolly Dale and Stark are dating again.

Have you seen the new look on the "Special," formerly Nothing Special . . . they have done a fantastic job and I don't think anything is left from the old place except the old bartenders.

Exclusive: Mable of the White Swallow is available, again. Also Tom Morgan is leaving our city after all of these years and moving to San Diego . . . we wish you luck Tom and let us know where you are working down there, 'cause you know how Lonnie loves it on the beaches in San Diego. Mike Dooley of the White Swallow is also going on vacation to Australia . . . have a good time Mike.

Have you been to the New Peter Pan on Turk Street? (formerly the Landmark) . . . they have done a sensational job of remodeling and it has a very spacious and interesting look; so give it a try the next time you are at Ginger's or the Queen Mary's.



And the Winner Is. Mike Hatcher has prize-winning pecs in the Arena Bare Chest Contest for May. (Photo: Rink)

## Karl's Calendar

Thursday, May 17: Mr. RR Contest, Margarita Party, Molly Browns, 8 pm  
Birthday, Lady (GD) Edie, Men's Room, 5:30 p.m.  
Darlene Kickoff, Candidate for QoffH, Deja Vu, show, hors d'oeuvres, 8 p.m.  
Birthday, Vern Stewart, Kokpit, 8 p.m.  
Forum, Chez Mollet, 8:30 pm

Friday, May 18: Parkay Party, Candidate for Miss Gay SF, Men's Room, 8 p.m.

Mr. RR Contest, River Village, 3-6 p.m.

Poolside Swim Suit Preview, Woods, Midnight, 1st round judging, formal wear, drawing for dinner with winner.

Saturday, May 19: Mr. RR Contest, Woods, poolside interviews, swim suits, 3 p.m. Midnight, mainstage, levis &

T's, featuring Viola Wills "Stormy Weather"

All Candidates Night, K&Q off SF, Kokpit, 8 p.m., MC GD Ken & Sable.

Sunday, May 20: Box Lunch Special, SFGDI & CMC Intown Run, \$5, Kickoff-Pilsner 10 a.m., prizes for best formal, tacky & picnic settings, people & bike/buddy events.

Clogger's Beer Bust, 3 - 6 p.m., Eagle patio, \$6.

Mr. RR Contest, Woods, 4 p.m., \$500 1st prize, Falcon Dance Troupe performs, BBQ.

Tenderloin walk, Tim Domingo, Candidate KoffH, start at Kokpit, 6 p.m.

Mr. GSL Contest, Chaps, 7 p.m., Danny Williams, \$4, reception for Mr. Australian Leather, Terry Oliver, 6-8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23: All Candidates Night, Mr. & Miss Gay SF, Kokpit, 8 p.m., MC's Cowboy Randy 7 Big D.



JACK OFF - Exhibitionist 7 nights a week, 8 PM on.  
UNCUT NIGHT - Every Tuesday, 8 PM on.  
HAIRY MEN - Every Wednesday, 8 PM on.  
MEASURE UP NIGHT - Every Thurs. 8 PM on.

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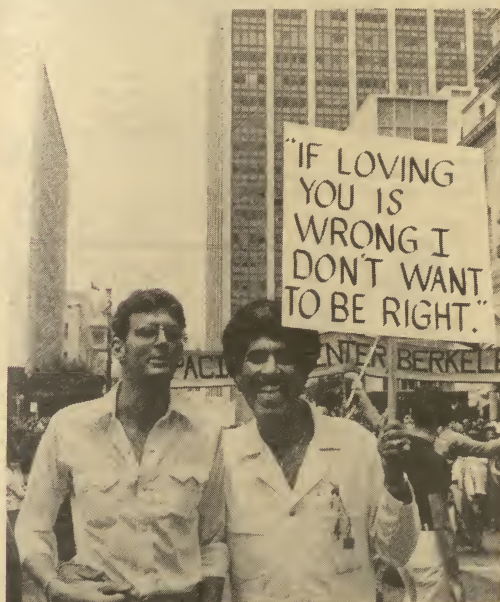


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No, the Parade is still (only!) a month away, but the fabulous Hot Colors II Party at the Endup is Thursday, May 24, the \$3 door charge to benefit the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. (Photo: Cathy Cade)



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\$545 Lg. Sunny 1 Brm. View, W/W, Lndry. Gay Bldg. 9th & Folsom. 552-1415 E21

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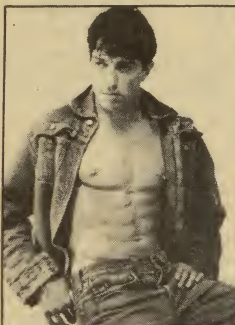
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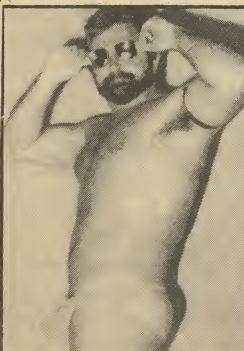
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